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*Editor Canadian Monthly*

# SPEECHES

OF THE

HON. ALEXANDER MACKENZIE

DURING HIS RECENT

VISIT TO SCOTLAND,

WITH HIS

PRINCIPAL SPEECHES IN CANADA

SINCE THE SESSION OF 1875.

ACCOMPANIED BY PORTRAIT AND SKETCH OF HIS LIFE  
AND PUBLIC SERVICES.

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The speeches of Mr. Mackenzie, the head of the Canadian Ministry, have the right ring about them, exhibiting not only that hard-headedness and caution which are so freely imputed to Scotchmen, but likewise a dash of that sentiment or poetry which our neighbors are some-what more slow in recognising as part of our national character. Canada would seem for the present to have put the right man in the right place, and it is natural the man should magnify the place, and tell us, as he does with apparent truth, how good the disposition, how prosperous the condition, and how magnificent the prospects of the vast country over which he presides. —THE SCOTSMAN, JANUARY 17, 1875.

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TORONTO:  
JAMES CAMPBELL & SON, FRONT STREET.

1876.

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NOTE.

To meet a very general desire to see brought together the speeches of the Premier during his visit to Scotland, the present volume has been prepared. The task of the Editor has been a light one, requiring merely the arranging and condensing of the several reports from the Scottish and English newspapers. Some editorial comments from the leading North British journals are added.

The opportunity is also availed of to reproduce Mr. Mackenzie's speeches in Canada since the last Parliamentary Session, and the Sketch of his Life and Public Services which recently appeared in the new series of the WEEKLY GLOBE.

The accompanying Photograph is by Messrs. Notman & Fraser, Toronto.

Ottawa, Feb., 1876.

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Hon. Alexander Mackenzie



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OTTAWA :

PRINTED BY MACLEAN, ROGER & Co., WELLINGTON ST.

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## SKETCH OF MR. MACKENZIE'S

### LIFE AND PUBLIC SERVICES.

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(FROM THE "WEEKLY GLOBE," TORONTO, JANUARY 7, 1876.)

Mr. Mackenzie was born on the 28th of January, 1822, in a stone cottage prettily situated near the confluence of the rivers Tay and Tummell—one of the most beautiful spots in the southern Highlands. Within a few miles of the ancient cathedral city of Dunkeld on the south, and the famous Pass of Killiecrankie on the north, a rich cultivation in the broad valleys contrasts strongly with near mountain scenery, and renders the spot no less celebrated for natural beauty than it is for its historic recollections.

Mr. Mackenzie is the third son of the late Mr. Alexander Mackenzie, of Logierait, Perthshire, Scotland, by Mary, second daughter of Mr. Donald Fleming, of the same parish. His paternal grandfather was Mr. Malcolm Mackenzie, of Strath-tummel. Both families were well known in Athol and Strath-tay; and although Mr. Mackenzie's family all emigrated to Canada, they have still many connections among the resident families of their native district. Mr. Mackenzie, sen., had seven sons who settled in Canada, all of them successful men and remarkable for ability and force of character. The late Mr. Hope F. Mackenzie, M.P. for Lambton, and afterwards for North Oxford, was a man of distinguished capacity, and beloved and respected by all who knew him. Had he lived, he would have occupied a very high position in public life.

Mr. Mackenzie was educated at the Public Schools of Moulin, Dunkeld, and Perth; and his father having died early in life,

he had from the age of fourteen to win his own way in the world. Although thus deprived of the advantages of a University education, he has been a hard student all his life, and has acquired not only a very wide and intelligent knowledge of general literature, but an accurate and thorough mastery, such as few possess of the Political, Constitutional, Industrial, and Social history, and present condition of the prominent nations of the world. By continued daily study he keeps himself abreast of the times; and his ready command of the facts and illustrations thus acquired, shows itself frequently in debate with telling effect.

Mr. Mackenzie in youth learned the business of a Builder and Architect; and in the winter of 1842 he emigrated to Canada, where he soon took up his residence at Sarnia, then a rising village on the banks of the beautiful St. Clair, and struck out for himself as a contractor.

Then were the days of the long and bitter contest between Lord Metcalfe and his Advisers on the one hand, and the great mass of the people of Upper and Lower Canada on the other, in regard to what was termed "Responsible Government."

Early in this long and earnest contest for popular rights, Mr. Mackenzie began his political career. Reared in the Liberal School, he took a warm interest in the progress of the popular cause; and by his earnest views and able contributions to the press in the Western District, he did much to create and sustain those sound sentiments on public affairs that then, and have ever since, existed there. But the full concession of Responsible Government was regarded by the Reform party as but a necessary means to the great end of obtaining a wise and just administration of public affairs, and the energetic development of the material resources of the country. Mr. Mackenzie, in common with all true Canadians, rejoiced in the re-accession to power of Messrs. Baldwin and Lafontaine on the 10th March, 1848—as the commencement of a new era in Canadian history,

in which class interests and personal pretensions would be forgotten, and the welfare of the whole people be alone considered. And for a while these expectations were realized. Many admirable measures were immediately placed on the Statute-book by the new Administration, and the Departmental business of the country was despatched in a highly satisfactory manner. But there were political breakers ahead that needed great wisdom and firmness on the part of the men at the helm to pilot the ship of state safely through them—and within a year of the accession to power of Messrs. Lafontaine and Baldwin, these breakers showed themselves unmistakably. It would occupy more space than we have at our command to trace the course of Mr. Mackenzie through the exciting political movements from 1850 to 1864—in all of which he was an active and earnest participator, and to the successful results of which, by his admirable speeches and writings, he largely contributed.

Throughout all the exciting scenes of these years Mr. Mackenzie was the firm, fearless advocate of the popular cause. For some time he was the acknowledged editor of a Liberal Western newspaper, which immediately commanded general attention by the force and ability of its editorial articles, and the sound common sense and earnest patriotism that pervaded its columns. Mr. Mackenzie early became known over the Province as one of the most earnest and reliable workers in the Reform cause; he became intimately associated with all the then prominent men of his party and their movements; and contributed very largely to the achievement of the long succession of Constitutional and Administrative reforms for the practical benefit of the country won from Toryism from 1850 to 1867, and that had its crowning triumph in the adoption of the present Federal Constitution. History will some day record the debt of gratitude due by the people of Canada to Mr. Mackenzie and his compatriots for their many years of

persevering, self-denying labour for Responsible Government, for entire separation of Church and State, for reformed Parliamentary Representation, for secularization of the Clergy Reserves, non-sectarian national education, University reform, annexation of the Hudson Bay and North-west Territories, free settlement of the wild lands, extension of the Canals, encouragement of Immigration, reform of the Alien Laws, and numberless other measures for the advancement of the national happiness and prosperity.

In June, 1861, Mr. Mackenzie was returned to Parliament as member for the County of Lambton, of which Sarnia is the County Town—and this constituency he has held ever since. From his first appearance in the Legislative hall to the present moment, he has held a very prominent position in the debates and legislation of Parliament. He gave a general support to the first short Administration formed on 26th May, 1862, by Mr. J. Sandfield Macdonald in alliance with Mr. Sicotte; and a hearty support to the Macdonald-Dorion Ministry that succeeded it the following year. He strongly backed the famous Committee of 21 members that, in June, 1864, reported in favour of a Federal Constitution; and on the defeat of the Conservative Government by a direct vote of want of confidence the same evening, he used all his influence to have the occasion utilized for the adoption, by consent of all parties, of a new Constitution based on the Federal principle, and remedying the grievances from which Upper Canada had so long suffered. He gave a very reluctant consent to the restricted coalition that ensued; much preferring that no member of the Liberal party should enter the existing Government, but that all its members should give an outside support to it until a new Constitution was formulated and carried. He gave, however, a zealous and effective support to all the proceedings that resulted in the British North America Act of 1865. When Mr. Brown left the Coalition Cabinet, on account of what he

deemed the unwise concession offered to the United States Government for a renewal of the Reciprocity Treaty, Mr. Mackenzie was tendered the Presidency of the Council thereby made vacant, but declined it on the ground that he could not be responsible for the proposed concessions.

The Dominion Conservative Government of 1867 found a strong prop in the Ontario Coalition Cabinet formed in Toronto at the same time by Mr. Sandfield Macdonald. The system of Dual Representation enabled a majority of the Provincial Ministers to hold seats at Ottawa as supporters of the Ministry there; and thus the Federal influence appeared to threaten the independence of the Provincial Government and Legislature. The Ontario General Elections came off in March, 1871, and Mr. Mackenzie was urgently pressed to enter the Local Legislature and give his aid to overthrow Sandfield Macdonald's Ministry, which was trembling under the assaults of the leader of the Reform Opposition, Mr. Blake. He was prevailed upon to run, and successfully contested West Middlesex, wresting the seat from a strong Coalitionist. When the House met in December he rendered valuable service in the memorable and victorious attack upon the Provincial Ministry. After its fall, and the formation of a new Government under the able leadership of Mr. Blake, he was sworn in first as Provincial Secretary, and afterwards accepted the more onerous office of Treasurer of Ontario. His remarkable knowledge of the resources and monetary position of the Province rendered his tenure of the office a great success; and his budget speech of 1872 was a masterly exposition of Provincial finance. In October, 1872, Mr. Mackenzie and Mr. Blake resigned their seats in the Ontario Legislature and their offices in the Administration, to devote themselves exclusively to federal politics, at Ottawa.

On the assembling in 1867 of the first Dominion Parliament, Mr. Mackenzie became *de facto* leader of the Ontario section of the Liberal party in the House of Commons, and indeed of Her

Majesty's Loyal Opposition in that House. He was not elected to the position—he did not desire to be elected to it—but he grew into it. Always well posted; always thoroughly conversant with the history and merits *pro* and *con.* of the question before the House; always ready in debate to drive home the right nail to its right place; always up to the mark as a member of the leading Committees; always alert for the public interest; always firm and cool in the face of the enemy; and always ready to give younger members the benefit, kindly and patiently, of his longer Parliamentary experience—it gradually and naturally came about that Mr. Mackenzie became—first tacitly, and then by formal election—Leader of the Liberal Party of the Dominion. And when the downfall of Sir John A. Macdonald and his colleagues came, there was no one justly to deny Mr. Mackenzie's title to the Premiership of British North America—by virtue of the position he already held in the House of Commons, his capacity as a statesman, his ability as a speaker, his wide and accurate knowledge of public affairs, his ardent devotion to the interests of his adopted country, his genuine love of the Old Sod and all its belongings, his unspotted personal character, his intense love of right and hatred of wrong, and the enviable place he has won for himself in the confidence and respect of his fellow countrymen.

Mr. Mackenzie has been but two years in office, but already a large number of highly valuable measures have been placed on the Statute-book, and important Departmental reforms accomplished. One of the first acts of the Mackenzie Administration was the passing of a complete election law for the whole Dominion—a measure with which their predecessors had failed to grapple. The new law included the adoption of voting by Ballot, the abolition of the property qualification of Members, and other important reforms in the same direction. An Act for the Trial of Controverted Elections was, at the same time, substituted for the defective measure already on the

Statute-book. The failure of the Canadian Pacific Railway policy of the previous Government involved the necessity of passing a new Act for the construction of that great national enterprise. The state of the revenue demanded a revision of the Tariff, and legislation to give effect to the new fiscal arrangements. A reform has also been effected in the organization of the Militia Department, and a Bill has been framed establishing a College to provide young men desirous of entering the service as officers with a thorough military education. The organization of the North-west Territory has been provided for; a Supreme Court of Appeal for the whole Dominion established; a complete and satisfactory Insolvency Law has been framed; the law regulating the Postal Service has been re-enacted, with many important and liberal amendments, including the free delivery of letters in cities, reduction of the rates of postage on newspapers to a nominal sum, and a highly advantageous Postal Convention, successfully effected last year under the auspices of the present Government, with the United States. Provision has been made by Act of Parliament for the effectual Inspection of Produce and of Weights and Measures, and for the better administration of the Penitentiaries; while the rights of British authors and the interests of Canadian publishers have been protected by an improved Copyright Law. A measure has also been framed enabling the Government to counteract the injurious effects of the monopoly hitherto enjoyed by certain companies in regard to Ocean Telegraphy. Immigration has received great attention, and very liberal encouragement has been made in the work of enlarging the Canadian canals, and the surveys for and the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway. The Intercolonial Railway has been brought nearly to completion, and the management of the Government Railways in operation has undergone a thorough scrutiny and reorganization. The increased confidence of the British public in the prosperity and financial



credit of the Dominion has been proved by the highly advantageous terms on which two large loans have been placed upon the London money market; vexed questions that disturbed the peace of Manitoba, and agitated public opinion in New Brunswick, have been satisfactorily disposed of; a just and conciliatory policy has been framed towards British Columbia, where irritation arising out of delays in the construction of the Pacific Railway existed; and every possible means has been adopted by Mr Mackenzie's Government to secure a fair representation of Canadian industry at the forthcoming Centennial Exhibition at Philadelphia.

One of the most notable incidents in Mr. Mackenzie's career was his reception in Britain last summer. Returning to his native land after a long absence, and simply for the purpose of securing a brief repose from labour and official anxiety, he had no idea of the reception that awaited him. He was welcomed wherever he went, and by persons of all ranks, with marked distinction and cordiality. His reception at Windsor Castle by Her Majesty must have been most gratifying to Mr. Mackenzie; and the opportunity so fully afforded him of becoming personally known to the leading statesmen of the Empire could not fail to be highly interesting and agreeable. But when he went North to his native hills, the enthusiasm of the Scots was thoroughly excited, and they came out to welcome their distinguished countryman in true Highland style. The demonstrations in Mr. Mackenzie's honour at Dunkeld and Logierait will long be remembered as events in the North; and the presentation to him of the freedom of the city of Perth and of the town of Dundee by the magistrates of these places, with the public receptions at Dundee, Greenock, Perth, Ayrshire, and elsewhere, were honours of which any subject of Her Majesty, however high his position or eminent his services, might well be proud. In all the varied and somewhat trying positions Mr. Mackenzie was thus called upon to occupy, he

bore himself in a manner at once modest and dignified, and all his utterances were characterized by sound sense and excellent taste.

In private life Mr. Mackenzie is of the most kindly disposition, without the slightest ostentation or assumption. He is a thoroughly upright man, a firm friend, a pleasant companion, and full of fun, anecdote and pleasant banter when he unbends at his own fire-side or that of a friend. He loves children, and enjoys immensely a romp with them; and all children like him. He is a member of the Baptist Church, and holds his religious opinion conscientiously and firmly; but no touch of bigotry or uncharitable spirit toward others dwells in him.

Mr. Mackenzie has been twice married. His first wife was Helen, daughter of the late Wm. Neil, Esq., of Irvine, Scotland, who died on 2nd January, 1852; and the estimable and much esteemed lady who now presides over his household is Jane, eldest daughter of the late Robert Sym, Esq., of Perthshire, Scotland, to whom Mr. Mackenzie was espoused on 17th June, 1853. Mr. Mackenzie has only one child, who is wife of the Rev. John Thompson, Presbyterian Minister of Sarnia.

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## TOUR AND SPEECHES IN SCOTLAND.

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### PRESENTATION OF THE FREEDOM OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNDEE.

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On the afternoon of July 13 the freedom of Dundee was presented to the Honourable Alexander Mackenzie, Prime Minister of the Dominion of Canada. The presentation was made by Provost Cox, and the ceremony took place in the Great Hall of the Free Library Buildings, in presence of a large assemblage of ladies and gentlemen. The hall was tastefully decorated with flags. On the platform there were : Sir Archibald Douglas Steuart, Bart. of Murthly ; Mr. E. Jenkins, M.P. ; Provost Macdonald, Perth ; Bailie Edward, Bailie Foggie, Bailie Thomson, Bailie Nicoll, Bailie Macdonald, Dean of Guild Luke, Councillor Kerr, Councillor Henderson, Councillor Smith, Councillor Mitchell, Councillor M'Lean, Councillor Ogilvie, Councillor Philip, Councillor J. Robertson (Lochee), Councillor Ballingall, Councillor Brownlee, Councillor Cleghorn, Councillor Moncur, Councillor Allan, Councillor Haggart, Councillor Gray, Councillor Anderson, Councillor Jobson, Councillor Drummond, Councillor M'Grady, Mr. Thos. H. Cox, Mr. Thos. Smith, Mr. Wm. Hay (Town Clerk), Mr. Jas. Watson, Mr. D. Farquharson, Mr. D. Mackay, Mr. M'Kelvie, and Mr. J. C. Jameson.

The Provost entered the hall, attired in his official robes, arm in arm with Mr. Mackenzie. After all were seated, the Provost, who was warmly applauded, said—Honourable Sir,

the Magistrates and Town Council of Dundee have unanimously resolved to avail themselves of the opportunity of your revisiting your native country to confer upon you the highest honour which it is in their power to bestow—the freedom of this ancient and Royal Burgh. (Applause.) I am well aware that this distinction possesses no intrinsic worth, and is only valuable as an expression of public opinion. Yet it is a distinction but rarely conferred, and one which is properly reserved for those who have rendered important public services. In our honorary burgess roll are recorded the names of eminent statesmen, legislators, and men of science. In bestowing the freedom of the burgh upon you, the Magistrates and Council believe that they faithfully represent the sentiments of this large community, who feel naturally proud of the honourable and successful career of one of their countrymen. It is not many years since you left the adjoining county of Perth to push your way in the world without any adventitious aids to help you on, but possessed of those sterling qualities which are best fitted to secure success. You had enjoyed the benefit of a Scotch education, and that formed a capital which is easily carried and is not liable to be stolen. (Laughter.) You selected as the field of your enterprise one of our most valuable and important colonies, not less remarkable for its rich and varied natural resources than for its sturdy and loyal attachment to the British Crown. You had not been long settled in Canada when you found scope for the exercise of those talents with which you are eminently endowed, and you have continued steadily to work your way, not only in business, but in the respect and esteem of the colonists, by whom you were elected, first a member of one of the Colonial Legislatures, and afterwards of the Dominion Parliament. (Applause.) Your shrewdness, sagacity, and sound judgment were soon felt and appreciated, and thus a way was opened for your advancement to that high position in the Government to which you have

since attained. Gifted with rare powers as a public speaker, you speedily acquired influence in the deliberations of Parliament, and you have made your mark on much of the recent legislation in the colony. Recognised as the leader of the Opposition in the Canadian House of Commons, it naturally fell to you to form an Administration when in November, 1873, Sir John Macdonald had to resign office; and, from the confidence reposed in your high character, you soon succeeded in accomplishing the task committed to you. Since that time you have continued to hold the proud position of Prime Minister of Canada. (Applause.) I am aware that many important measures owe their existence to you. Seeing with a clear insight into the wants of the colony, you had the energy and integrity to apply the proper remedy. Time would fail to recount the various legislative measures of internal improvement in which you have taken a prominent part. I shall only refer to the general Act for the improvement of municipal corporations, the enactment of stringent election laws, and the establishment of vote by ballot, the abolition of the real estate qualification for members, the erection of a Military College for the Dominion, the enlargement of the canals, and the establishment of a Supreme Court of Justice in Canada. These are but a few of the legislative works in which you have been engaged, and which you have mainly helped to promote, but they are enough to show of what stuff you are made, and to account for the high position of honour and influence which you now occupy. (Applause.) No wonder, then, that your countrymen at home should feel an honest pride in contemplating your successful career, and that we who were formerly your near neighbours should gladly embrace an opportunity of marking our appreciation of your public character and services by such a tribute as we this day offer for your acceptance. And now, sir, in name of myself, the Magistrates, and Town Council, I beg to

hand you this casket containing the burgess ticket. May you be long spared to enjoy the privileges it confers on you, thereafter to be handed down as an heirloom in your family to those who come after you. I now offer you the right hand of fellowship, and welcome you as our youngest brother burgess. (Loud applause.)

Mr. HAY, Town Clerk, then read the following extract minute of Council :—

At Dundee, the 23rd day of June, 1875, which day the Honourable Alexander Mackenzie, Premier of the Dominion of Canada, was, by the Magistrates and Town Council of the Royal Burgh of Dundee, in respect of his eminent position and distinguished public services, duly and lawfully created and admitted a free burgess of the Royal Burgh of Dundee of the first class, and all and sundry liberties, privileges, and immunities thereto belonging were conferred on him, but always conform to and in terms of the Acts of Parliament thereanent; and an act or record to the above effect specifying the cause of the said admission is written on paper, duly stamped as use is—which act or record contains a declaration that the said burgess, by accepting of his privileges, becomes solemnly bound to discharge every civil duty incumbent by law on a true and faithful burgess of said burgh of Dundee.

Given at Dundee, the 13th day of July, in the year one thousand eight hundred and seventy-five.

(Signed) JAMES COX, Provost.  
(Signed) WM. HAY, Town Clerk.

(Burgh Seal.)

The casket is of solid silver, is richly chased and ornamented, and in shape is oblong. On the lid are the arms of Dundee and Canada encircled in wreaths. Surmounting the Canadian arms is the crown, and between the two escutcheons is a figure, with the word *Concordia* written underneath. The figure is represented with outstretched arms joining Dundee and Canada in concord and peace. The decorations on the lid are done in relief, and in every respect Messrs. Marshall, Edinburgh, are entitled to credit, not only for the promptitude with which they have executed the commission, but for the taste they have displayed. Engraven on one side of the box is the following inscription :—

THE FREEDOM OF THE ROYAL BURGH OF DUNDEE,  
 THE CERTIFICATE OF WHICH IS ENCLOSED IN THIS CASKET,  
 Was, by the unanimous vote  
 OF THE PROVOST, MAGISTRATES, AND TOWN COUNCIL,  
 Conferred on  
 THE HONOURABLE ALEXANDER MACKENZIE,  
 PREMIER OF THE DOMINION OF CANADA,  
 In respect of his eminent position and  
 Distinguished Public Services.  
 Council Chambers, Dundee, 23d June, 1875.

Mr. MACKENZIE, who was received with loud applause, said :  
 —Provost Cox, ladies, and gentlemen—Words fail to express  
 my feelings in receiving this great kindness from the citizens  
 and public of this great town. I am well aware that while you  
 desire to shew kindness to a countryman after a long absence,  
 you extend this welcome more to the Premier of Canada than  
 to myself personally. And while I feel for myself very deeply  
 this expression of your good will, I am quite sure that I  
 represent the feelings of the people of my own country when I  
 say they will all be equally proud that the First Minister of  
 the country has received this attention at the hands of the peo-  
 ple in this place. (Applause.) It is true, sir, that gentlemen  
 in political life naturally cause some feelings of irritation occa-  
 sionally to their opponents. I daresay that is the case even in  
 Dundee. It is certainly the case to some extent in Canada, but  
 for all that there is a general feeling throughout our country, as  
 in all parts of the British Empire, which enables us to occa-  
 sionally overpower party political feeling, and to act as if we  
 were not controlled entirely by its influence. I feel, sir,  
 exceedingly proud of the great honour you have done me.  
 When nearly forty years ago I left Scotland—left the neigh-  
 bouring county, as you have remarked—it was undoubtedly  
 without the slightest idea that I should ever stand in the  
 position I do at present, either in Dundee or in Canada. For-  
 tunately, we may be citizens both of Canada and of Scotland.  
 The two countries are bound together by what I believe to be  
 indissoluble ties. In the beautiful casket you have presented  
 I find the central figure extending a hand on either side—one



over the Arms of the Dominion, the other over the Arms of Dundee and Great Britain—(applause)—and the word *Concordia* is written over both. I am sure that I represent faithfully the feelings of the people of Canada when I say that no act will be left undone on their part to promote the feeling of concord which at present happily exists between Canada and all parts of the British Empire. It is true there are some politicians in the neighbouring Republic who imagine that they are destined to rule the entire continent. They proudly place on record in some of their public documents their determination that there shall yet be but one system of government upon the continent. We on the northern side of the St. Lawrence and the Great Lakes have chosen another course for ourselves, and it has been decreed as inevitable by the people of Canada and the people of the British Empire that there shall be at least two systems of political government upon the North American continent. (Applause.) You have alluded, sir, to my desire to maintain the present relations between Canada and the British Empire, and in doing that you do but justice to the entire sentiment of the whole of that great country. (Applause.) I say great, for though our population is comparatively small, we have room for more than all the millions which at present inhabit the British Islands. (Applause.) And yet, sir, it will not appear a small country when we compare it with some figures in our own Scottish history and some facts in it. It has a population of over four millions, which is considerably more than twice the population of Scotland at the time of the union with England. The revenue of the Dominion of Canada during the last year was about \$25,000,000, or £5,000,000 sterling—very nearly twenty-five times the amount of the national revenue of Scotland immediately before the union. (Applause.) This gives some idea of the extent of the country, its wealth, its power, and its resources. And at the present moment the shipping of the Dominion of Canada exceeds the entire ship-

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ping of England, Scotland and Ireland at the time of the union of the Crowns of Scotland and England. Canada is able at the present moment to take the fourth rank in the world, or the third after Britain proper, in shipping and in commercial and mercantile enterprise. We have taken great pains in our internal improvements to open up a great system of inland navigation, which enables us even now to take a sailing vessel, or a steamer of about 600 tons burthen, two thousand miles into the interior from the ocean. (Applause.) I hope, sir, that when you visit Canada—as I trust you will do within a few years—we shall be able to take you to the head of Lake Superior in vessels of 1,500 tons burthen, that being about the capacity of the great canals to which you have alluded as being at present in progress; and I am sure, sir, that whenever you or any of the inhabitants of this town shall visit Canada, you will be thoroughly satisfied in other respects with the prospect which it holds out of being a permanent home for a very large portion of the surplus population of this country. When I tell you, sir, that our prairie land alone, west of the great lakes, upon which we have but just entered, extends for a distance of nearly 900 miles, with a width of at least 300 miles, and that there is forest land for many hundreds of miles to the north and west, I give you some little idea of the vastness of that country which has become the heritage of Britain. (Applause.) And it is not, perhaps, speaking too boastingly as a Minister of the Crown in Canada when I say that I hope in the course of years—perhaps not in my lifetime, but possibly in the life of my immediate successors—a larger population will inhabit the British portions of North America than now inhabit the British isles, and that we shall be able to do our share in the work of evangelization—speaking both in a Christian and commercial sense—for, sir, it is the mission of the Anglo-Saxon race to carry the power of Anglo-Saxon civilization over every

country in the world. (Applause.) And when we have colonized the whole of the vast continent with a flourishing and industrious population, we shall have brought ourselves very near indeed to the shores of the great eastern empires, which teem with a population such as is not to be found in any other part of the globe. It may not be known to you, sir, that when our great railway is finished we shall be very nearly a thousand miles nearer to Japan and China than at present they are to San Francisco, in the United States. (Applause.) And it may not be known to you that we have facilities throughout the whole of the vast territory to carry on a system of railway improvements by means of enormous coal deposits which are to be found in the country. Our coal beds in the North-Western States are considerably larger than the entire area of the British Isles. And how far north they go I do not know, but they go very far. They have need of much coal in these northern regions, as indeed it is somewhat cold there. (Laughter.) I fear I somewhat digress—(applause)—from the proper kind of speech to deliver on such an occasion as this; but I hoped you would not object when I took this opportunity of saying a few words about the country which you have chosen to honour in my own person to-day. (Loud applause.) I need not assure you or any one here of the anxious desire of the people of Canada to cultivate the most extensive trade relations with every part of the world, but especially with the great centres of trade in this country, to which we all belong. (Applause.) And while we are compelled by the necessity of revenue to impose a very considerable duty upon goods entering into the country, we shall always feel bound so to distribute that taxation as to promote as far as possible the interests of the trade relations that are existing between civilized countries. (Applause.) I am quite aware that at the distance of three thousand miles from here matters may be done which may not be understood very well by many people

in this country, and perhaps the gentlemen of the press who are present will pardon me if I say that many of the representations in the English newspapers are not always quite as correct as they might be in matters of detail—(applause)—but, we shall be most happy, either as Canadian journalists or as Canadian public men, to endeavour to keep our brethren of the press and our brethren in political life as right as possible in these matters. I have spoken chiefly on geographical features and business relations, but I will say a few words now as to the social condition of the people—the kind of political and social life that is prevalent in the country. We have, as you are aware, no difficulties to contend with such as divide many interests in this country. We have no Established Church. (Applause.) We have none of those difficulties that arise from an early system—that it may be impossible in older countries to get rid of, or that many may not think it desirable to get rid of at all. (Applause.) We have, however, as I have stated, no kind of class legislation—no kind of sundering differences. We have a vast system of public free schools. In the Province of Ontario we have considerably over 5,000 schools, at which every child in the country can obtain a very good education entirely free. In each county of the Province there is at least one good grammar school, where any one can obtain—either free or at a very small cost—the elements of a classical education. From these local schools students matriculate into the University of Toronto—a great national establishment, amply endowed and free to every person of every creed or class or circumstance in life. (Applause.) This institution contains an excellent library and museum, and possesses in its staff of teachers some of the most eminent men that England and Scotland has produced. (Applause.) We have in that institution the means afforded for obtaining the highest possible education, equal to that of any University in this country, at the smallest possible price that can be named

anywhere in the world. (Applause.) We have throughout the whole of the country a spirit of toleration of class to class, and creed to creed, which is exceedingly creditable to the people of a new country. We have, as you are aware, in the great Province of Quebec a vast French population, the numbers of which are increasing at about the same ratio as that of the English-speaking population of that Province. I was delighted to be able on other occasions to bear my testimony to the wonderful success of the French people in Canada. They are in the position of a people speaking an alien language, but do not consider themselves an alien people, and are at this moment as proud of British law and freedom as any portion of the Canadian people; and as Lord Dufferin remarked the other day in London, there is no class or population more thoroughly trained in Parliamentary practice and life, and to all the rights and feelings of an independent and proud people. As thoroughly British as any Englishman, Scotchman, or Irishman, they are also possessed of a spirit of endurance, a power which is making itself felt in the country; and I am glad to be able to say, that the English people and the French people live together in a spirit of the utmost harmony, and find no difficulty arising from the separate nationalities from which they originally sprung. (Applause.) I find myself on returning to this country sometimes a little curiously situated in coming into contact with existing institutions and social habits which affect political life, the product of centuries of slow growth and development; not that I have anything to complain of personally; but there are, nevertheless, in a new country like Canada, habits and feelings and practices grown out of its very freedom which set at defiance the conventional restraints existing here, and engender a new life-feeling which perhaps comes but slowly to older and richer communities. But, sir, I am glad to know that the same glorious spirit that animated the people of this country in former days animates the people in Canada. Burns placed

the following words in the mouth of Robert Bruce when about to make a last despairing effort to regain the independence of his country:—

We shall drain our dearest veins,  
But we shall be free.

(Applause.) Now, sir, we are equally determined in the matter of draining our dearest veins always for freedom, and never, if we can help it, for anything else. (Applause.) I hope that the days are far distant when any occasion shall arise which will compel the people of Canada or the people of Great Britain to take up arms for any purpose but for the maintenance of those institutions which Scotchmen in former days did so much to promote and perfect, and have bequeathed to the united nation and to the world. (Applause.) You have alluded, Mr. Provost, to the advantages which I enjoyed of having a Scottish education, and you were pleased to say that it was a commodity which could not readily be stolen. Well, I do admit, and every Scotchman must, the enormous influence which early Scotch training in the national schools in this country has had on the people of the country. (Applause.) We are apt to speak of John Knox as a great preacher. I think if he excelled at all, he excelled quite as much as a statesman as he did as a preacher. (Applause.) I think there is nothing for which we should revere the memory of John Knox so much as the establishment of the parochial school system of education in Scotland. (Applause.) And I am sure there is no one who has gone abroad and has witnessed the influence that this early school training has had upon the Scottish character and the Scottish mind but must be satisfied that it was the proudest day of Scotland's national existence when these schools were established. (Applause.) I have merely to say, Mr. Provost, in conclusion, that no Scotchman abroad has any reason to be ashamed of Scotland, and I trust that no Scotchman here in my own country, or in any other country, or in the colonies, will do

anything that will make Scotland ashamed of him. (Applause.) While I shall continue to reside for the remaining days of my life in Canada—I shall continue there of course as a Canadian—I cannot if I would, and would not if I could, throw off all allegiance to my own proud nationality of Scotland. (Applause.) And, sir, it is not necessary. The children of Israel when they were taken captive by the great Eastern monarch, were asked by the Babylonian captors to sing them a song of Zion. They replied, "How can we sing the songs of Zion in a strange land? May my right hand forget its cunning if I forget thee, O Jerusalem!" We can as Scotchmen sing our national songs—songs of freedom or affection—whether placed in Canada or Australia, whether in the Arctic or Antarctic zones, and think our national anthem as dear to us in one place as in another; for the broad banner of British freedom floats equally over every country of the British dominion. (Loud applause.)

Bailie EDWARD then moved for three cheers for the youngest burgess in Dundee, which were very heartily given.

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### THE BANQUET IN DUNDEE.

On the afternoon of the same day a magnificent banquet was given by the citizens of Dundee to their youngest burgess, in the Thistle Hall, which was elaborately decorated for the occasion.

Provost Cox presided, and on his right hand were—the guest of the evening the Hon. Alexander Mackenzie; the Right Hon. Lord Kinnaird; Mr. Jenkins, M.P.; Sheriff Cheyne; and Mr. Williams Thoms; and on the left—the Right Hon. the Earl of Strathmore; Sir Douglas Steuart, of Murthly; Admiral Maitland Dougall; Lord Provost Macdonald, Perth; and Mr. Hay, Town Clerk. The croupiers were Bailies Edward and Thomson. Among those present were—Bailie Nicoll, Bailie Foggie,

and Bailie Macdonald, Dean of Guild Luke, Councillor Henderson, Councillor M'Grady, Councillor Brownlee, Councillor Cleg-horn, Councillor Mitchell, Councillor Anderson, Councillor Ogilvy, Councillor Robertson (Dundee), Councillor Robertson (Lochee), Councillor Philip, Councillor Gray, Councillor Ballingall, Councillor Allan, Councillor Kerr, Councillor Haggart, Councillor Smith, Councillor Meneur, Councillor Jobson, and Councillor Drummond, ex-Bailie Buchan, ex-Dean of Guild Macnaughtan, Provost Fyfe (Forfar), Bailie Kidd (Broughty Ferry), Colonel Sandeman, Mr. Thomas H. Cox, Mr. Henry Cox, Mr. George Cox, Mr. J. H. Luis, Mr. George Mackerzie, Mr. A. W. Fairweather, Mr. J. F. Low, Mr. Thomas Smith, Mr. W. Tod, Mr. William Martin, Mr. John Ewan, Mr. James Edward, Mr. Henry Henderson, Mr. T. M. Black, Mr. A. Hendry, Mr. David Easson, Mr. D. C. Pagan, Mr. B. M. Macrae, Mr. J. P. Kyd, Mr. J. J. Deas, Mr. J. C. Jameson, Mr. James Watson, Mr. D. Farquharson, Mr. D. Mackay, Mr. W. M'Kelvie, Mr. Walter Baxter (United States Vice-Consul), &c.

After the removal of the cloth, the Provost said he had received letters of apology from Sir John Ogilvy; Lord Provost Falshaw; Mr. Yeaman, M.P.; Sheriff Heriot; Dr. M'Gavin; Bailie Robestson; and Mr. Thos. Thornton. He afterwards gave the toasts of the Queen and their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales and the other members of the Royal Family. These toasts having been duly honored, he subsequently called for a bumper for the Navy, Army, and Reserve Forces, coupled with Admiral Maitland Dougall and Colonel Sandeman. (Applause.)

Admiral DOUGALL replied in a very humorous speech, and was followed by

Colonel SANDEMAN, who said he had frequently replied on behalf of the Reserve Forces of the country, but never in the presence of the Premier of one of the greatest colonies—one



who had given the subject of defence a great deal of study, and who had organized a strong force, which was left behind him to keep Canada all right till he went back again. Ever since the Franco-German war the subject of reserves had been anxiously considered, but Britain had done very little. Canada, on the other hand, had sent over to this country, and had obtained the services of Colonel Strange, R.A., who was using his very best ability to re-organize under Mr. Mackenzie a splendid force of artillery for Canada. But he hoped that when that point was arrived at, when all the resources had been utilised, she would never follow the example of her sister, and sever by the sword of war those ties which bound her to England and her Queen. Goaded on by what Americans considered vexatious taxation, their volunteers of a hundred years ago drove them with their tax gatherers across the Atlantic, after sinking the cargo of tea which they fain would have forced into their stores, and kept the custom which they would fain have slipped into their pockets. Were Canada to turn against them with that cool Perthshire man at the helm he feared they might be served in the same way. God grant it never might, but that under the sway of a wise Government the cords that bind them might become stronger, and that instead of sending, as they did a hundred years ago, German Hessian troops against their kith and kin, they might send Dundee Hessian bags to convey from their fertile shores to their beautiful harbors the produce of that splendid country. Mr. Mackenzie had, however, assured them that this would never happen if Great Britain kept her own place towards her child. (Cheers.)

The PROVOST gave the health of the Right Hon. the Earl of Strathmore. (Applause.)

The Earl of STRATHMORE, who was cordially received, said he was specially pleased that night in having the satisfaction along with his Dundee friends of welcoming their distinguished

countryman the guest of that evening. They took a deep interest in those of their countrymen who went abroad, and they had reason to be proud of not a few of them. (Applause.) It was a feeling of this kind which had brought them together, to congratulate the youngest burgess of the town of Dundee on the honor he had received. (Applause.) Mr. Mackenzie had raised himself to a very high position in the great Dominion of Canada, which was one of the proudest jewels in the crown of the Sovereign of Great Britain. (Applause.)

The PROVOST next gave "The House of Lords and the Right Hon. Lord Kinnaird." (Applause.)

LORD KINNAIRD acknowledged the toast, and thanked them as a Perthshire man for the honour they had done Mr. Mackenzie, and he was sure his own county would not be behind in honoring him. (Applause.)

The PROVOST afterwards gave "The House of Commons," coupled with Mr. Jenkins. (Applause.)

MR. JENKINS ably replied.

BAILIE MACDONALD gave the healths of the Sheriffs of the county, coupled with Sheriff CHEYNE, who cordially acknowledged the toast.

The PROVOST rose to propose the toast of the evening, and was loudly applauded. He said—We have met to do honor to a distinguished countryman who has come to revisit the place of his birth and the scenes of his youth. (Applause.) He presents to the young men of Scotland an example worthy of their study and imitation. It is possible that his successful career may give fresh courage to some who are entering upon the great struggle of life, and may convince them that those who carefully cultivate the talents which God has given them, and steadily pursue a manly and upright course, seldom fail of success. Few may reach the eminence which our honorable guest has attained, but all may acquire honor and respect by a

faithful and conscientious discharge of duty. If such shall be the result of the visit of Mr. Mackenzie to his native country, he will not have come in vain. Let me, then, ask you to dedicate a bumper to the health of the Honorable Alexander Mackenzie, Prime Minister of Canada, and Burgess of Dundee. (Loud and hearty applause.)

Mr. MACKENZIE, who was received with loud and prolonged applause, said,—My Lord Provost, my Lords, and gentlemen, I feel very proud of the kindness shown to me by the events of the previous part of this day, and this entertainment, and by the kind remarks that you and some other gentlemen have made regarding my visit to this country. I not only feel grateful at present, but it will be a green day in my memory to the last day of my life. I only hope what some have been pleased to say may be the case, that improved commercial intercourse between Canada and this country may result, perhaps not from my visit, but from information I may be able to get. There is much to be said at a meeting of this kind, but I do not think it would be proper to go into any general discussion about the situation of Canada at the present moment. The gallant Colonel on my right was pleased to refer to military matters in connection with this country and in connection with Canada, and the relation that Canada bears to the Empire. I need not say we consider ourselves in Canada to be quite as much belonging to the Empire as any part of Great Britain or Ireland. We have, in fact, in Canada ceased to speak of the possibility of anything else ever taking place than a continuance of the intimate political relationship which at present exists. We believe it is quite consistent for England's greatness and Canada's happiness that this relationship should continue. We believe, as I stated in my remarks to-day in the other hall, that there is room on the American Continent for two political systems. We have long ago made up our minds to that, and this relationship will continue, no doubt; and I am

sure that the same reciprocal feelings will not only be entertained but maintained by every person on this side of the Atlantic. We have had our little trials. The gallant Colonel, in speaking of the condition of the volunteers in England, alluded to the necessity that existed in Canada for something like an active force. We have a force of about 45,000 men—a force which could be turned out in a short time—and I shall only mention one fact—in connection with the second Fenian raid in 1870, when the Commander-in-Chief of our Militia, Colonel Ross-Robertson, was able to turn out nearly 20,000 men in 24 hours upon the frontier, and not merely 20,000 men, but 20,000 fairly drilled, equipped and clothed, of all arms of the service—cavalry, infantry, artillery and rifles. (Applause). To that efficient organization of our militia system we undoubtedly owed the salvation of the country at the time. After that one night's business—for I may say that I was out with the rest of my colleagues - we were secured from further molestation on the part of the Fenian bands in the United States, and we also destroyed all hope on the part of United States politicians that anything like a separation of the country could be attained by any means whatever in the power of man, unless it should be a desire on the part of England to separate from us. (Applause.) We believe in that country we have the means of building up a great and powerful nationality; and although all new countries are perhaps a little inclined to boast and somewhat inclined to feel a little too proud of their position, we believe we have a territory to occupy which will justify some brilliant hopes. We have a will to occupy it in all its parts; and although it is somewhat difficult for a handful of people such as we are compared to you—for we are not quite one-eighth part of your population—to occupy a territory so vast as ours, still we feel that by the natural increase of the population, and by the efforts of our emigration agents in Europe, we will be able in

the course of a few years to throw a vast population into the country so sparsely inhabited at present. (Applause.) I may mention, as an example of the difficulties which we have to encounter in maintaining law and order in so vast a territory, that we have between the Rocky Mountains and Lake of the Woods 1,000 miles of territory from east to west, by 500 miles from south to north, fit for settlement, almost wholly unoccupied, excepting some 20,000 or 30,000 people in the Province of Manitoba. There are some 50,000 Indians. This country was infested for years by traders from the United States selling intoxicating liquor to the Indians, and causing much disturbance in our relations with them by keeping up a constant irritation on the frontier, and debauchery and war amongst the Indian tribes. The Government determined to send a force of Mounted Police, armed as cavalry, to establish law and order. This force was organized and sent, and you may imagine what sort of country it is when I tell you that it took six weeks marching from one end to the other along the frontier to reach the base of the Rocky Mountains. It accomplished its mission, however; order was completely established; and I was informed by a resident at Fort Benton, in the upper part of the Missouri country (in the United States), that they never knew on the frontier what it was to have order established till the Canadian troops did so. (Applause.) We hope in the course of a comparatively short time to be able to enter that great territory by means of a railroad now under construction. It was one of the last things I did before leaving home, as Minister of Public Works, to let out by contract two or three hundred miles of the road for construction, and thousands of men are now engaged upon it in the wilderness north and west of Lake Superior, tracking out a way in which thousands will follow them—some to settle, some to work upon the railway, but all to extend the dominion of Canada and the dominion of Great Britain in those remote countries described

by Butler as "The Great Lone Land." We hope that the efforts made by the Canadian Government will result in obtaining for the country such a population as may be amply sufficient in the course of a short time to develop some of its principal resources. (Applause.) We believe these resources to be great, and that if we are favoured at all by fortune, we will have a most flourishing and industrious population in these new territories, occupying them to the common advantage of Canada and of Great Britain. You were pleased to refer to my political opinions upon one subject; and while I quite concur with you that in such a meeting it is perhaps improper to speak of local politics, still I think in the higher branches of political life we may refer to political principles. I take the true meaning of the term free trade to be the complete removal of all restrictions upon trade so far as that can possibly be done. I believe myself that the principles of Richard Cobden, and the principles of free trade over the world, are the real principles of civilization; and I believe that wherever these principles are interfered with by restrictions on trade by artificial means, to that extent there is retrogression from the higher principles of civilization. (Applause.) That, I think, is the view generally taken by the people of Canada. We have amongst us, no doubt, as you have amongst you, people who have the idea that the true trade principle is to build up a high stone and lime wall to prevent people coming in or going out; who say:—"Let us keep the trade to ourselves, and keep the money in our own country." But we cannot do that—we can only make money by trading with other nations and individuals, and I quite appreciate your suggestion, my Lord Provost, that the people of Dundee and Canada should endeavour to trade a little more in the future than they have done in the past. (Applause.) I assure you that nothing will be wanting to that end on the part of the Canadian Government so long as I have the honour

of being one of its members; and I believe no Canadian Government, whatever the political party, will attempt to hinder the extension of the true principle of free trade all over the world. We believe we will be in a position in the course of a few years to do a great deal of your business. We believe we shall be able, by way of the Pacific Ocean, to carry your tea across our railway, and to transport your goods to China by a much shorter route than at present. If we do that, you will obtain some advantages in return, for wherever a large amount of business is transacted there must be a large amount of profit to somebody. (Laughter and applause.) A parliamentary friend of mine was privately discussing this subject with me. He said,—“The country is going to ruin; the balance of trade is against us. How can we continue to go on in this way many more years? Our exports last year were so many millions, and our imports so many millions more, and we are poorer by the difference between the imports and exports.” I said,—“We cannot be poorer, because the difference between the exports and imports represents the profits we have made. You send a cargo of ten thousand barrels of flour to Spain, which would cost fifty thousand dollars, and you sell it for ninety thousand; with this ninety thousand you buy other products and bring them back to Canada. The balance of trade would be against you in this case to the extent of forty thousand dollars, which would also be the exact amount of profit on the transaction. In this way you account for the difference of import and export. But do you mean to say you are poorer?” (Applause.) This is the way advocates of restriction argue. We say the more trade there is, and the more the balance of trade seems against us, the more likely are we to obtain large profits, and the profits again are invested in loans to other countries, and in forwarding enterprises for the general benefit of the country. Everybody now admires the genius of Richard Cobden and his associates; everyone—

Conservative or Liberal—understands that it would never do to go back to the old days of trading, when vessels were charged with tonnage dues, and when it was necessary to construct them in a most unshapely fashion for exemption purposes, so that one of these old-time protectionist ships could only be moved in a harbour by having a tug on both sides to keep her upright. Now every one builds after his own fashion, and the rapidity in ocean transport which now prevails would never have taken place had this restriction remained. I am sure that in Canada the people appreciate this principle, and the general intelligence which prevails over that country is such that I am sure there is no danger of a reactionary policy ever finding a response in the hearts of any considerable number of our people. (Applause.) I feel obliged to you and the other gentlemen of Dundee for their kindness in welcoming me, as they have done, back to my native country. (Applause.) It is quite true that I am a native of Perthshire, and pretty far north, and it is equally true that I shall always feel a sincere affection for Scotland, and Perthshire in particular; but I am quite sure of this, that in our great colonies, and I trust also in England, there is every opportunity for those who desire to rise in political and social life, and who trust to their own unaided exertions. There is no royal road in Canada or in any other colony to any position of eminence, either in University, political, or commercial success. Everything must be got by hard labour, and I would be sorry to make an impression upon any one here or elsewhere that we have not as many difficulties to contend with there as you have to contend with here; but it is satisfactory to know that in the colonies, and I hope in England as well, there is a fair field and no favour, and every manly and independent mind will rejoice that there is that fair field and will ask nothing more. The days of monopolies are ended; the days of class legislation, when one class was set over another, are ended; and I am glad to see that exemplified



here to-night in the presence of two members of the most aristocratic and most powerful House of Parliament that has ever existed anywhere—the House of Peers of England. (Loud applause.) I apprehend your member will agree with me when I say that while the House of Commons does represent, in consequence of its electoral character, the power and influence of the kingdom in a sense somewhat different from the House of Lords, that yet the House of Lords has maintained its character for ability and power and eloquence in dealing with all public questions. Whatever may be said of some of the people of Canada and the other colonies as being more democratic than it is possible for this country to be, yet we are not so democratic as to refuse to listen to the voice of reason. We are not so democratic as to ignore the best means of governing a country, both as British subjects interested in the welfare of her people and as colonists specially interested in the government of our own country. I believe that the colonies are essential to British supremacy in the world. I don't say so because we are desirous of the slightest favour financially from Great Britain. We are able and willing, God knows, to bear our full share of all Imperial responsibility whenever required for the common interest. And we are doing so at the present moment. I believe that the power of ancient Rome departed when they began to desert the extremities and when the blood receded to the centre and produced a gorging that ended in paralysis. And if Great Britain cuts off her extremities, treats her colonies with contumely, or treats them in such a way that they don't care to remain, then I believe that a great portion of Great Britain's glory will have departed. (Applause.) I am as anxious as it is possible for any British subject to be that that glory should be unsullied, that that power should never be abridged, and that English supremacy shall last till the end of time, because it means universal freedom, universal liberty,

emancipation from everything degrading. If that power is broken, and other Powers come in and take a share of the historical supremacy which peculiarly belongs to us, then I believe it will be worse for the world, and I am sure worse for England. If there is one thing I would desire to press more than another upon a British audience, it is that we are extremely anxious upon this point, and that we are extremely willing to do our full share in everything that may be necessary to maintain the *status quo*. (Applause.) I have little more to say, but I thank you, sir, most sincerely, and the other gentlemen present, for the kind words they have spoken. I receive them not so much for myself as for my friends in the Government in Canada and for my countrymen in Canada, and I can assure you that the kind words you have spoken will leave a lasting impression upon my mind. (Loud and prolonged applause.)

Mr. MONCUR gave "The Landed Interest," to which Sir DOUGLAS STEUART, Bart., replied.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE proposed "The Provost, Magistrates, and Town Council of Dundee." The Provost acknowledged the toast.

Mr. THOS. SMITH submitted, in an interesting speech, "The Town and Trade of Dundee," and its motto, "Prudence and Candour." Mr. THOS. H. COX, President of the Chamber of Commerce, responded.

Admiral DOUGALL gave "The Harbour Board and Shipping Interest." Mr. WILLIAM THOMS, whose name was coupled with the toast, replied.

"The Press," "The Ladies," "The Chairman," and several other toasts were proposed, and the proceedings closed shortly after eight o'clock.

## ADDRESS FROM THE WORKINGMEN OF DUNDEE.

On the evening of July 14 Mr. Mackenzie attended by invitation a meeting of workingmen, held in the Kinnaird Hall, for the purpose of receiving an address of congratulation. There was a large audience. Bailie Edward presided; and beside him on the platform were—Mr. Mackenzie, Mr. Edward Jenkins, M.P., Bailie Robertson, Bailie Nicoll, Bailie M'Laren (Broughty Ferry), Councillor Henderson, Councillor Allan, Councillor Gray, Councillor Robertson (Dundee), Councillor Jobson, Councillor M'Grady, Councillor Anderson, Councillor M'Lean, Councillor Drummond, Councillor Philip, Mr. James Christie, Mr. Wm. Tod, Mr. A. W. Fairweather, Mr. George Rough, Mr. David Rollo, Mr. Warden, Mr. John Moir, Mr. John Leng, Mr. Walker, Mr. Chas. Scott, Mr. James Shaw, Mr. D. Bruce, Mr. M'Glashan, Mr. J. J. Deas, Mr. M'Waters, Mr. Brymer, Mr. Sturrock, &c., &c.

The CHAIRMAN said he have received an apology for absence from Provost Cox. He would not make a speech, but said he cordially approved of the present address. He thought it right and proper that they should do honour to a man who had done honour to his country. (Applause.)

Mr. JAMES BRYMER read the address, which was as follows :

*To the Hon. A. Mackenzie, M.P., Prime Minister of Canada :*

SIR,—As representing the workingmen of Dundee we gladly embrace the opportunity afforded by your visit to Scotland to offer you a cordial welcome, and to express our gratification at your acceptance of the highest honour it is in the power of our burgh to confer.

In conferring the freedom of the town the Magistrates and Town Council of Dundee have only expressed the unanimous feeling of the citizens at large.

We, as working men, regard the occasion of your visit with peculiar interest. We understand that it is your pride to have sprung from Scotland, and from the class to which we belong; and we cannot but express our

high appreciation of the energy, industry, and ability which have made you the responsible director of the affairs of a large and flourishing Dominion. Few have risen to such eminence, and we are persuaded few have so well deserved their success. We are proud of your position, which reflects honour on Scotland itself and on its working men, while at the same time it shows us what fields are open in our Colonies to the enterprise and intelligence of her children.

We regard your presence amongst us as significant of the closeness of the ties which bind us as Scotchmen to British communities throughout the world. It is a pleasure to know that when our brethren leave Scotland for British Colonies, they not only carry with them the abilities which have gained distinction for Scotland in almost every country, but a loyal devotion to the old land and a patriotism which is imperial in its range.

Our hopes and prayers are that you may long be spared to fill the exalted position you now so worthily occupy, and that under your administration Canada may continue to prosper.

He afterwards said—It affords me no ordinary gratification that I have been requested to stand before this meeting of my fellow-working men, and in their names welcome the Prime Minister of one of our most important colonies as a citizen of the third town in Scotland. (Applause.) I am deeply sensible of my inability to express in words all that may be felt by the class to which I belong as to the honourable and responsible position of one who forty years ago was one of ourselves. I am not here to pour down upon Mr. Mackenzie's devoted head the insincere adulations with which great men are sometimes overwhelmed. It is true we have nothing but words to give ; but they are few, and such as an honourable man may accept while receiving the hand of welcome from his countrymen. (Applause.) We are glad to have Mr. Mackenzie in our midst, and proud that he has risen from the workman's bench to be the responsible ruler of a colony nearly as large as the continent of Europe. What a thought for working men ! Alexander of Russia, Francis Joseph of Austria, the Emperor William, the hero of the Septennate, and the gay gallant of Italy could all be included within the territory governed by the operative stonemason from a country parish in Perthshire. (Applause.) Unacquainted as I am with the history of Mr. Mackenzie's political acts, it would be affectation to detain you with any reference to these. It is enough for us to know that under his

benignant rule Canada will have ample power to develop her vast resources, to become a blessing to her population, and a strong support to the gnarled trunk from which she sprung. (Applause.) I have now, sir, to ask your acceptance of this address. Although presented to you by this meeting, I believe it to be the sincere expression of the community of Dundee. And when engaged in further plans for peopling the immense territories under your control, the improvement of the navigation of the St. Lawrence, and the further utilisation of the inland seas of North America, may the thought that you have approving friends on the banks of the Tay sustain and comfort you, and thus we may in some degree at least become contributories to your success. (Loud applause.)

Mr. STURROCK, in seconding the address, said he thought that they, in uniting to do honour to Mr. Mackenzie, the Premier of Canada, were only in a possibly higher degree doing honour to themselves. (Applause.) It was a good thing and a proper thing to give honour to those who occupied high positions, who had titles to their names, and could trace their descent through a long line of ancient heroes; but he held it was far better to honour one who had risen from the ranks to occupy the position which he now held. They could all remember the sterling words of the Scottish Bard:—

The rank is but the guinea stamp,  
The man's the gowd for a' that.

(Applause.) It would have been right to have expressed their admiration of Mr Mackenzie as Prime Minister of Canada if it had been for nothing more, but it was more appropriate when they know the sterling worth of the man. (Applause.) He might say he was not surprised that he was not ashamed of being a Scotchman, but they would allow him to say the man who was ashamed of being a Scotchman ought to be ashamed of himself. (Applause.) He hoped Mr. Mackenzie would long be spared to guide the destinies of the nation, and that he

might at the end be able to look back with pleasure to a life of usefulness, and to think that he had always been upon the side of honesty and truth. (Loud applause.)

The CHAIRMAN then asked the approval of the meeting for the address, which was most heartily given, the audience standing up and cheering.

Mr. MACKENZIE, who was received with loud and continued applause, said—Mr. Chairman and gentlemen of Dundee, I assure you there is nothing that a public man so appreciates as to find that his public acts meet with the reasonable approval of a large portion of his fellow-citizens. (Applause.) Words cannot express the feelings of pleasure that pass through my own mind on receiving so much kindness—first, from the chief authorities of the town of Dundee, and latterly, at this present meeting, from those whom I perhaps should call more peculiarly my own associates in social life. (Applause.) Sir, I have listened with the utmost possible pleasure to the eloquent remarks of the two gentlemen who have moved and seconded the address which you have just presented, and I have merely to say that if that is the kind of stuff of which the working men of Dundee are composed, we could make members of parliament of a great many of them if they will only come to us. (Loud applause.) You know, sir, that, generally speaking, we Scotchmen are slow of speech compared with our Irish fellow-countrymen. (Laughter.) They can always speak, no matter on what occasion, with the greatest possible fluency. (Laughter.) We are constantly halting in our speech, and unable to clothe our ideas in proper garb; but it seems, sir, that the Scotchmen of Dundee are peculiarly fitted for occupying the platform. (Laughter.) I am glad to see that they do so without the slightest tinge of the peculiarity with which the Scotch are generally charged, of being clannish to their own people, for I have beside me my friend Mr. Jenkins—(loud ap-

plause)—who is Agent-General of Canada, and although he is an Englishman, you elected him to represent you in Parliament. I think it is Dean Ramsay who tells the story somewhere in his somewhat famous book, of some Scotchman who was so particularly careful of the honour of his country that he did not like the idea of an Englishman presuming to repeat the poems of Robert Burns and such men peculiarly Scotch ; but one English gentleman got into his neighbourhood, and he resolved, as he has settled in the country, to make himself as much a Scotchman as an Englishman could. But this person did not like the idea at all, and when some one was speaking in approval of the Englishman's course he said :—“ Yes, he is very well ; yet he is an Englishman for all that. He is merely an improved Englishman.” (Loud laughter and applause.) Now, my friend Mr. Jenkins is at present an improved Englishman—(renewed laughter)—but I dare say if you will elect him again, as I have no doubt you will do, he will become a pretty thoroughly improved one at the end of the next term. Well, sir, I have somewhat digressed, but it is merely to point to a peculiarity, or failing, I may say, characteristic of us as Scotchmen. We have never been able to hold our own as public speakers with Irishmen, nor yet with Englishmen, and we have to trust to something else to make our way in the world both here and elsewhere. For when Englishmen invade our own territory and carry away the representations of our districts, you may guess what they can do in the Colonies, where we are so very few. (Applause.) Sir, I was exceedingly pleased to hear the expressions of the two gentlemen who have spoken here to-night, and I have merely to say, with reference to the part of their speeches which alluded to the possibility, the practicability, the certainty, of those who are diligent and energetic rising in the Colonies to occupy political positions of distinction, that I think workingmen in Britain, as well as in the Colonies, do not do themselves justice when

they believe that the highest political positions are shut out from them by reason of social distinctions. (Loud applause.) For my own part, sir, I never allude to the fact that I have been a workingman as a reason why I should be rejected or why I should be accepted. (Applause.) I base my entire claim for public confidence upon the expressions of opinion which I believe command public confidence, and upon the result of these principles of which I have been an humble advocate for many years. (Applause.) I do not, of course, presume for a moment to speak here upon party political subjects. So far as British politics are concerned, I am an alien amongst you. I desire to say nothing which will militate against one political party in this community or in this country. It would be unpardonable of me to do so, receiving as I have done kindness which I shall never forget from gentlemen of all shades of political opinion in this country. But at the same time I may be permitted to say I have always held those political opinions which point to the universal brotherhood of man, no matter in what rank of life he may have taken his origin. (Loud applause.) I have believed, sir, and I now believe, in the extinction of all class legislation, and of all legislation that tends to promote any body of men or any class of men from the mere fact of their belonging to a class of a higher position than any other class in the community. (Applause.) But, sir, in our great colonies—while we find no fault with the political organization in the mother-country—while we find no fault with the political organization in any other country—we take the ground simply and completely that every man stands equal in the eye of the law, and every man has the same opportunity by exercise of the talent with which God has blessed him to rise in the world, in the confidence of his fellow-citizens, the one quite as much as the other. (Applause.) Now, sir, I am quite sure when I address so enlightened a body of men as the workingmen of Dundee—who comprise the greater part



of this meeting—I am quite sure I can address them believing that I shall find a full response in their hearts of the opinions I utter when I press upon them the necessity—the absolute necessity, as a first measure – as the very foundation of success in life—that they shall assume an erect and proud position, that they shall respect their own manhood; and they will soon compel all other people to respect them. (Applause.) It is quite true that you have in this country a class who are elevated above the rest by reason of rank bestowed by the favour of the Sovereign; but do not imagine for a moment that class distinctions are peculiar to this country. Go to the Republic of the United States of America, and you will find there, I venture to say, more class distinctions created by wealth than you will find in this country by titular distinctions connected with the landed property of the country. (Applause.) And it is a matter of moonshine to you or to me whether the influence which separates the great body of the people from the few is, as in America, the possession of enormous wealth, and the erection of peculiar social barriers which shut out every one but a favoured few; or whether it is, as in other countries, the barriers erected by a long process of law and by the exercise of the Sovereign favour. (Applause.) In either case you have in this country, as we have in Canada, and in all the British Colonies, and in the Republic of the United States, the most perfect field for the operation of your own intellects and powers to work upon, and it is the fault of the individual and not of the political system if he fails to attain to some reasonable success in life and some comfort in social existence. (Applause.) I do not know, sir, precisely upon what subjects I should speak to-night. My address, so far as it has gone, has been chiefly personal to myself, and I have referred to some extent to what is mentioned in the address. I have simply now to say a very few words in reference to matters which perhaps may interest some present concerning my

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own country. (Applause.) As I said yesterday, I count Scotland my country quite as much perhaps as Canada, but I am peculiarly interested in Canada. It is my home for the rest of my life, and my interests are bound up there, and my family is Canadian. And while I as a Scotchman will ever regard with the greatest and tenderest interest everything that affects my native land; while I look back to the long roll of historic events connected with Scotland and to the long struggle for Scottish independence, which tended to promote English independence, British independence, and the independence of all other nations in the world—I believe that nothing can ever exalt in my mind the feeling that I now have that the interests of human liberty have been more promoted by this glorious little nationality than any other spot on God's earth. (Loud applause.) Sir, almost every spot that one travels over in this favoured island is a spot that has been drenched with the martyr and patriot's blood. Every place you visit is alive with historic lore. When I was looking the other day in one of the public buildings in Edinburgh on one of the banners that had been carried by the Scottish army at Flodden Field, when I thought of the disastrous consequences of the field where the Scotch chivalry, including the king, were stricken down, yet I felt proud that even by these disasters our honour at least was not lost. (Applause.) It would be impossible for me, as it would be unpardonable in me, no matter where situated for the last of my days, were I to forget all this, and were I, as a Scotchman, and even though I were not a Scotchman—though only a citizen of the world, a cosmopolitan, knowing no country and no home as my own—it would be unpardonable on my part to forget that Scotland has played what may be called a tragedy of human life. (Applause.) But, sir, as it is, my interests and personal affections, while not alienated from Scotland, are transferred in a measure to Canada. I look upon Canada as a country peculiarly favoured as to climate, as to

locality, as to soil, and as to the feelings of the people, as being the home of a brave, a generous, and a powerful nation, and one yet destined to play an important part in the history of the world. I cannot but feel that it is my duty on this, as on all other occasions, to say a word or two regarding that great country. (Applause.) Now, sir, I am aware that many people emigrate to Canada, and that some return with feelings of disappointment. They do not think the River St. Lawrence is as big as has been said. They do not think that the Falls of Niagara quite as large as has been stated. They do not think the lakes are so vast as has been represented to them. They come back believing that there has been some great delusion, and a mirage presented to their view which gave a false impression to their mind and altogether disappointed their expectations. Still, sir, as I said yesterday, neither in Canada nor in any other country I know is there a Royal road to social or political distinctions; but I do say that in Canada as in no other country, possessing as it does enormous tracts of land and a comparatively sparse population, there must necessarily be more room for personal and individual effort than there can be where the people are cramped and confined by walls and boundaries of factories and steamships. (Applause.) The rapid progress which the world has made during the last quarter of a century, especially in the means of rapid transportation and communication between the various countries, has had a tendency to equalize wages and equalize prices over the whole world, and as the means of transportation and communication become still more extended we will arrive at the period when the wages of the workman, and of the clerk, and of all who are engaged as producers on the world's surface will become as nearly equalised as possible, and change only by the cost of transportation from one place to another. Sir, when I went to America, nearly forty years ago, a three months' voyage was a very common thing. A six weeks'

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voyage was a rather rare thing. Now, sir, we complain if we do not make it in ten days, and call it a very bad passage if we do not make it in thirteen days. The result of all this has been that people in this country have benefited by the prices paid on the other side of the water, and now when an evil day has come over the manufacturing districts of the United States, and Canada has become infected by reason of the fiscal policy of our powerful neighbour and its influence upon our trade and commerce, we find that the wages here are nearly equal to the wages in America in purchasing power, though nominally smaller in amount; but in Canada we have this advantage: Here, for instance, when a large manufactory is shut up by reason of failures in trade or a great depression in the sales of the articles that manufactory produces, the whole army of workmen are thrown idle upon the market. There is no place to which they can go; all other manufactories of any kind of material are already filled up. The agricultural districts are filled with labour, and they have nothing to do but to depend upon the accumulations and savings of former years, or the operation of some Trades' Union or Friendly Society. But in Canada, if he chooses, a mechanic when out of work can go to the Governments of Quebec, Ontario or the other Provinces and obtain a free grant of land to settle upon; and if trade continues bad, he can always keep at work cultivating and clearing his land, and it will free him from any possible danger of starvation. (Applause.) I do not desire to say one word which would operate as an undue inducement to any person now before me to leave his native land and settle in my own country, but I merely point out the peculiar advantages that result to those who settle there. I believe that if at the present moment a large number of Scotch or British mechanics were to emigrate to the Canadian cities they might find in some branches some difficulty in getting profitable employment. I do not know exactly whether this is true,

but I think it probable. But, sir, mechanics who are there can get other ways of employing themselves. They can get abundance of employment of some kind. When I went to Canada I found trade of every kind very dull. I found wages very low—not much higher than in this country—and great difficulty in obtaining employment. I went at once to the bush, and took my axe and commenced clearing the land. I found abundance of employment there, and I tell you it would take all the people here and ten thousand times more to clear the woods within a reasonable time. (Applause.) I found no difficulty in finding abundance of work, and so it is at the present moment; and those who do not care to go into the woods and clear farms there have only to go to the North-West country, where we have prairies with a soil of ten feet deep, and natural grass that may be cut late in the year supplying abundance of forage for all the animals you could possibly have. (Applause.) Last year the Government of Canada sent a large force into the north-west parts to preserve order in our borders—to prevent an irruption of United States traders selling whiskey. And I may say in passing that I do not myself make use of whiskey, and do not believe in it. (Applause.) I believe it is one of the greatest curses, especially to the workingman, that could possibly be named. (Applause.) And, sir, when enacting a new law for the government of the North-West territory we took care to provide that in a territory bigger five or six times than the size of this country not a drop of whiskey, either in shape of ordinary liquor or in Perry Davis's pain-killer or in anything else, could find entrance there. (Applause.) And in order to secure compliance with the rigid terms of this law, we sent a mounted force of 300 men to keep watch and ward over our boundary, and to prevent its introduction from the United States. I mention this merely in passing to let you know what you may expect in that country, that those who want

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whiskey had better stay away from our prairies. (Applause.) To say a little now about agriculture. I saw lately in an English newspaper that it was a great pity we had eight months of winter and four of summer, and terrible pictures are drawn of men being frozen to death, and so on. Well, I never saw anything of the kind. (Laughter.) I never felt any inconvenience—not so much as I have sometimes felt here—in the winter time there. Well, sir, at Fort Pelly, where the headquarters of this force were situated, we sent a party with instructions to get an abundance of hay for the supply of the cavalry horses during the winter, and it is a positive fact that in that part, 300 miles west of Red River, 800 miles west of Lake Superior, 2,000 miles west of Quebec, they got this hay up to the 30th Nov., and stored it for horses' use. It is quite true, sir, that in that climate there is a considerable length of winter, but it is equally true that we have a very much longer summer, and that one month of our summer is equal to two months of yours in ripening power. (Laughter.) I do not mean at all to boast of our climate; I am merely stating a simple fact. Although we put in our crops a month later than you, we take them from the ground at least a month earlier than you. (Applause.) In my own county I have seen ripe wheat cut as early as the 1st July, and it is very rarely indeed that it is not all got in before the 1st of August; and it is the same in the North-Western territories. It is quite true the frost penetrates into the ground from three to four feet every winter in many parts of the North-West, but the surface soon thaws in the spring. The agriculturist is able to plough long before the frost is out below, and get in his seed, and as the frost retreats from the surface the plants get the benefit of the capillary attraction from the moisture below, and the crops grow quite as well there as in any other parts of Canada where the frost goes very little into the ground. (Applause.) Well, sir, in that country which I have alluded to—and I did so as it

was a new country—the Canadian Government provides not merely free land, but also material assistance in paying part of the passages in getting there. The wheat there is the heaviest grown on the American continent, and if there are any Irishmen here present I may tell them that the potatoes grow bigger there than anywhere else. (Laughter and applause.) The Canadian Government at the present moment is engaged in overcoming the initial difficulties that obtain in so vast a territory. We are at present building a telegraph line from one side of the continent to the other. Every mile of it is under contract. We will, perhaps, have a third of it constructed before the end of this year; and wherever wood occurs, as wood does occur over the prairies, in patches here and there, we clear up two chains wide, or 132 feet, build a telegraph line along this clear plot, and follow with the surveyors for the railroad to prepare a way for operations upon the construction of the road. We have from Lake Superior westward placed under contract about 200 miles of this road in the place where we have no water navigation; for one of the peculiarities of Canada is this—that from the time you leave the ocean and enter the waters of the St. Lawrence, you can go in the same steamer for two thousand miles to the head of Lake Superior. Then, we have west of Lake Superior, when we reach the height of land, Lac des Mille Lacs, Rainy Lake, Lake of the Woods, and some other small lakes, reaching altogether to about 320 miles; and that brings you close to Lake Winnipeg, which stretches from north to south about 200 miles, and you are then within a few miles of Lake Manitoba. This gives us peculiar facilities for opening up the country, and we are at present proceeding to build our railways on the spots that connect all these great and small lakes together, so that we will be able within a very short time to obtain access to the very heart of the territory, and provide a means of exit for the productions of this part of Canada when they become

so great as to require to be exported to Europe for sale. (Applause.) I mentioned yesterday in my address that in that country, although the wood was very scarce in many places, by one of these wise provisions of nature, which seem never to fail to supply man's necessities in all quarters of the world, we scarcely ever leave a woody region, or a region most thickly covered with wood, till we enter upon a coal district which has no equal upon the face of the earth for extent. The Saskatchewan River, from the point where it falls into Lake Winnipeg, except six or seven miles of rapid, is navigable for a distance of 1,400 miles, and the southern branch of it is navigable for a distance of 800 or 900 miles; both branches cut through beds of coal sometimes higher than the height of this room. This shows the vast resources which nature has provided in this country, and, in addition, there is an abundance of that metal which, above all other metals, enriches a country—iron. (Applause.) The Rocky Mountains may be described as a great wedge lying in the heart of the American Continent. As you go south towards Mexico they rise, and there is a steady depression towards the north. In the pass where the railroad and telegraph line are being laid, the utmost elevation is 3,700 feet above the sea level, and this is attained by a steady and gradual ascent on each side of the mountains. In the Peace River Pass, some 300 miles north of this, the level is nearly 2,000 feet above the sea, and as you progress towards the Arctic Ocean the great mountain range of Central America practically disappears, though there may be hummocky indications of its presence as a mountain range. The country along the base of the Rocky Mountains is inhabited by the buffalo and the Indian. I have great pleasure in saying that no British subject need be at all afraid to encounter the Indians anywhere in our territory; but if a Yankee goes amongst them, he has a good chance of being scalped the first opportunity. (Applause and laughter.) We



have always as a Government, from motives of humane policy—and, I might say, from motives of selfish policy, if we were to be guided by selfishness, as I hope we are not—always preferred to treat with the Indians on proper principles; and the Canadian Government never occupy an inch of soil upon the Continent of America till they have first purchased the right to possess it from the Indians. (Applause.) We have the Indians as our creditors for the tracts of land acquired in the North-West, and we pay them a certain amount per annum, and a certain amount of interest, and a certain value in agricultural implements, clothing, &c. They know the boundaries precisely; they are laid down on a map which the chiefs sign; and those poor people, when they met with the Minister of the Interior and the Governor of Manitoba, last summer, held a three days' debate regarding the value of the land; and I tell those who imagine that the red Indian of the West is ignorant, they are mistaken. (Applause.) Those men know everything passing in the country, and perfectly understand the arts of diplomacy. (A laugh.) They are admirable speakers, and to hear one make a speech you hear at once the natural orator, and you can appreciate the skill and dexterity he shows in debate. (Applause.) This country is inhabited by those Indians, and the feelings which they entertain towards the Canadian is of the best possible character; but wherever they find the blue uniform of the United States, or anyone they know to belong to that country, they take the surest aim possible and dispossess him of his life. You remember a few years ago the terrible massacre by the Sioux Indians. In the States of Minnesota and Iowa whole districts were laid waste, and every soul was murdered—man, woman, and child. But these people although they fled into our border—we could not recognize the murderers, else we should have given them up—although they fled into our border, not a child or even a dog was hurt. They acted with the greatest possible

propriety, because they knew and believed that the Canadian Government were determined to do their people justice at all hazards. (Applause.) I do not suppose any one here would be afraid to enter upon a settlement in the great north-western country because of what I have mentioned. I simply mention these facts to show the policy the Canadian Government have pursued, and which has entirely secured intending settlers from any possible molestation. You are aware that in Canada we are a mixed population; but I think amongst all classes and nationalities there is a spirit of patriotism which will prevent the cropping up of any feeling which would present national origin or religious belief as a bar to political preferment to either House of Parliament or in the Government itself. (Applause.) In all new countries such as ours occasional difficulties in statesmanship present themselves, because there is a natural tendency on the part of classes to combine in order to secure particular interests; and it is the policy of the Canadians, as it ought to be the policy of every Government, to prevent ethnological distinctions exercising any undue political influence or any undue social influence. In such a country as ours the population is necessarily mixed, and we are somewhat in the position as races of the people of England at the time of the Norman invasion, when the old Saxons, the Normans, and the remnants of the Picts and other tribes in the north here were all mingled together, and a great diversity of feeling prevailed, as has been so fully depicted by Sir Walter Scott in "Ivanhoe" and other works. I hope in our country we shall never have such difficulties existing as are there described, and I may tell you an instance of liberality. (Hear, hear.) Sir Walter Scott tells us in "Ivanhoe" how the Jews, who then as now possessed a good deal of the world's circulating medium, were treated. In order to extract money from them they extracted their teeth, and every time a refusal was given another tooth was drawn, till at last the Jew yielded.

(Laughter.) There is nothing of that kind with us—(laughter and applause)—and it is to be told to the honour of the French people of Lower Canada that the French Legislaturo, long before the union with Upper Canada in 1840, was the first Legislature on the face of the earth in civilized countries that gave the Jew equal privileges with the Christian in legislation and in everything else. (Loud applause.) It may be news to a number of you that nearly half a century before Britain allowed even a Baron Rothschild or a Solomon to sit in the English House of Parliament, the Jew had the liberty of sitting in the Roman Catholic French Assembly of Lower Canada. (Applause.) And those who have been privileged to mingle with my French compatriots there will find amongst them many men not only of the highest political intelligence, but of the utmost possible liberality which the human mind is capable of enjoying. (Applause.) I thank you, Mr. Chairman, very much for the kind words that have been spoken by yourself and the two gentlemen that have preceded you. I thank the workingmen of Dundee for this magnificent meeting and the kindness with which they have received the few words which I have spoken. I can only say that this will be a memorable day in my life as long as I live, and I shall never look back upon the pleasant three days I have spent in the town of Dundee except with feelings of the utmost possible gratification and pleasure. (Applause.) And while I can promise no peculiar privileges and make no special promises to Scotchmen, or even to Dundee men, should they come to Canada, I can promise you this—that you shall receive the utmost possible justice and fair play, and liberality, should you ever think of visiting the Dominion. (Long and prolonged applause.)

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## PRESENTATION OF THE FREEDOM OF THE CITY OF PERTH.

Mr. Mackenzie was on July 16 presented with the freedom of Perth, on account of his distinguished services, and of his being a native of that county. The ceremony took place in the City Hall at 12 o'clock, in the presence of a large assembly, including a number of ladies. Lord-Provost McDonald presided, and he was accompanied to the platform by the Right Hon. Lord Kinnaird, Lord-Lieutenant of the County; Bailies Brown, Readdie, Ramsay, and Robertson; Treasurer Martin; Dean of Guild Robertson; Councillors Carnegie, Chalmers, M'Kenzie, Honey, Sime, Frazer, M. Stewart, C. C. Stuart, M'Arthur, Moir, Walker, Moncrieff, MacLeish, Pinkerton, Wotherspoon, Deas, and Thomson; Colonel D. R. Williamson, of Lawyers; Colonel Campbell, Perth; Sheriff Barclay, ex-Lord-Provost Graham, ex-Lord-Provost Sidey, ex-Dean of Guild Dewar, ex-Bailies Greig, Jamieson, and M'Currach; Mr. Thomas Greig of Glencarse, Mr. Charles M'Lean of Glencarn, Rector Miller, of the Perth Academy; Mr. John M'Donald, wine-merchant; Rev. Mr. M'Donald, Aberuthven, Rev. Mr. Cowan, Free St. Leonards; Mr. John Kippen, solicitor; Mr. J. R. Brown-Morison of Finnerlie; and Mr. John Shields, Wallace Works.

The Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE, on ascending the platform, met with a most enthusiastic reception.

The Lord-Provost, in opening the proceedings, requested Mr. John Thomas, Assistant-Town Clerk, to read the minute of Council, which was as follows:—

At Perth, and within the Town-Hall thereof, on Monday, fifth day of July, eighteen hundred and seventy-five years, at ten o'clock forenoon.

On the motion of the Lord-Provost, the Council unanimously approved of, and adopted, the resolution of the Council in Committee to present the freedom of the city to the Honourable Alexander Mackenzie, Prime Minister of Canada; therefore, the Lord-Provost, Magistrates, and Town Council of

the city of Perth, at a meeting held by them this day, did, and hereby do, in testimony of the merited regard they have for the Honourable Alexander Mackenzie, Prime Minister of the Dominion of Canada, a native of Perthshire, who has raised himself to his present distinguished position through his upright energy and unquestionable ability, resolve to present him with the freedom of the city of Perth, he taking upon him the customary fealty as a citizen.—Extracted by

WILLIAM GREIG, Town-Clerk.

The LORD-PROVOST then said—Ladies and gentlemen, you have now heard read the minute of Council unanimously conferring the freedom of this ancient City and Royal Burgh on the Hon. Alexander Mackenzie, the Premier of the Dominion of Canada—(cheers)—and considering the very large attendance now present on a market-day, it indicates to me your hearty approval of this resolution of your Town Council. (Cheers.) Mr. Mackenzie left our shores in early life to push his fortune in a foreign land. Fortunately for him, and for the British Empire, he adopted as his future home one of the British colonies, the Dominion of Canada. (Cheers.) His career in that large and growing country is well known to all of you through the public prints, and I do not intend to enter upon it. Sufficient is it for our present purpose his being one of Perthshire's sons—one of ourselves. That is sufficient for our purpose. (Cheers.) These are the reasons that induced the Town Council of Perth, in your name, to offer this to the Hon. Mr. Mackenzie. I would now ask Mr. Thomas, the Clerk, to read the burgess ticket to be presented. (Applause.)

Mr. THOMAS accordingly took the burgess-ticket from the casket and read it.

The casket containing the burgess-ticket was of black oak, taken from a tree found in the bed of the Tay several years ago, and is 8 inches long and 5 in breadth. At each corner of the lid is a Scotch thistle, and in the centre the Perth arms, all done in silver, the latter being surrounded by the following inscription :—

Burgess-Ticket—Presented to the Honourable Alexander Mackenzie, Prime Minister of the Dominion Canada, by the Lord-Provost, Magistrates and Council, of the City of Perth. Perth, 16th July, 1875.

The casket was provided by Mr. D. Munro, jeweller, Charlotte Street.

The LORD-PROVOST then continued—I may mention, before saying anything further, that it is only on rare occasions that we offer the freedom of the city to any one ; and I would mention for Mr. Mackenzie's information a few of the illustrious names that are entered on our records—(hear, hear)—Lord Palmerston, the late Marquis of Breadalbane, Lord John Russell, the Earl of Dalhousie, the Lord sitting at my left here—Lord Kinnaird—(loud applause)—Sir Hope Grant, Colonel MeLeod, and many others who have distinguished themselves, for the good of their country, either in defending it, or as statesmen, and otherwise. In proceeding now to discharge this duty, in the name of the Town Council and fellow-citizens of Perth, permit me to say that we are not ignorant, sir, of your career in Canada as a citizen and statesman. We may not always give the attention to colonial affairs that we ought ; but we know this, that your political career, as well as your private character, has always been marked by integrity, great ability, and wisdom. (Loud cheers.) We do not speak of political parties here, nor enter much into politics. It is not necessary to do so. We may say this, however, no Government could have survived the disclosures made regarding the Government of Canada to which you and your Cabinet succeeded ; and we do you this honour to-day because we believe that your accession to power was the accession of integrity and high principle as well as wise policy. (Hear, hear, and applause.) You must permit me to say also, sir, that we are proud of you as a Scotchman, as one of the foremost of Scotchmen who have manifested in an eminent degree the sound judgment and caution, uprightness, stainless honour, the perseverance and patience for which, we hope, Scotchmen will ever be distinguished all over the world. (Great cheering.) We are especially proud of you as a Perthshire man, and as a

Highlander. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) Whatever schools or schoolmasters you have had since you left our shores, Perthshire is the county of your birth, and had put the stamp of its persevering sons upon you ere you took your departure out into the great world. (Cheers.) I was gratified, sir, in receiving your first letter to observe by the coat of arms of your seal that you have not discarded the Gaelic. (Hear, hear, and laughter.) For the sake of those of you who do not understand the Gaelic, I must interpret it. The motto is *Curdich an rìgh*, and it means "The King's People"—(cheers)—and I may say the motto is half-significant of the tried and true loyalty of the people in whose Council you lead; and I have no better wish for our colonies than that they may have only as loyal, faithful and wise servants as the present Prime Minister of the Dominion of Canada. (Cheers.) The country of Canada, sir, is yours. I hope you will protect both the country and the great and noble flag of Britain that waves over it. (Cheers.) I am sure that if you are like the rest of Scotchmen, and the Highlanders especially—(laughter and cheers)—you will ever defend the flag of our gracious Sovereign, Queen Victoria. (Great cheering.) Without occupying any more time, then, in the name of the Town Council and fellow-citizens of Perth, I have to present you with this box containing a free burgess-ticket admitting you as one of our members. I hope yourself and Mrs. Mackenzie may be long spared to have this adorning some of your side-tables, and I now give you the right hand of fellowship as the youngest burgess of this city. (Great cheering.)

Hon. ALEXANDER MACKENZIE, on rising to acknowledge the honour, was loudly and repeatedly cheered. He said—My Lord-Provost, ladies, and gentlemen, nothing could be more gratifying to myself, coming from a Perthshire city and a Perthshire people, than to have my name placed on that illustrious roll which you have just read, and which contains the

names of many of the great statesmen of the country, and many of the prominent citizens of Scotland itself. (Cheers.) Sir, it is true that I feel quite as proud of Perthshire as it is possible Perthshire can feel of any of her own sons—(cheers)—and nothing has been looked forward to by myself with greater longing for many years than once more to be able to place my foot upon her soil, and tread her heathery hills. (Cheers.) I have not the good fortune to be familiar with that language to which you have referred, and which many of the Highlanders believe was spoken in an eastern country when mankind were very new. (Laughter.) But I am glad to know that the family or race or clan to which I belong have always endeavoured to be “the King’s people,” and to help the King in every time of need. (Cheers.) I would not promise for myself, sir, or for them, that we would be advocates of the divine right of kings, but there can be no possible objection to the constitutional monarchy of Great Britain, and especially in relation to Her present Majesty, Queen Victoria. (Cheers.) Perth is represented, I observe, sir, in the guide-books to foreigners as the finest country in Scotland, and Sir Walter Scott remarks that the natives of every other county in Scotland say that Perthshire is the finest in Scotland next to theirs. (Laughter.) We, of course, believe it is the best; and I am sure the position which Perthshire men have taken in public affairs, on both sides of the political line which divides parties in this country, has been such as will give her sons as great prominence as her hills and valleys have given her scenery. (Cheers.) Sir, I represent not merely myself standing here before you, but I am quite sure you all understand that in presenting me with the freedom of your city you are honouring not me individually, but that great province—I may say that great nation—which I have the privilege of representing as its Prime Minister—(cheers)—and I am quite sure that nothing can be more gratifying to the entire Canadian



people than to hear the patriotic utterances of the Lord-Provost of the ancient city of Perth, in connection with that permanent union which he desires, and which we all believe to be the inevitable fixed fact between Canada and the Empire from which it sprung. (Cheers.) Sir, I believe that very few people appreciate, to the extent that they should do, the immense importance to Great Britain of the possession of her great colonies over the world. It was left to an American statesman to say, that the British flag could be seen everywhere; and that, from the time you left the citadel of Quebec, travelling westward and returning back to Quebec, you were never out of the roll of the drums of British regiments. (Cheers.) And this is really the case. Great Britain presents the most marvellous spectacle at the present moment to the civilized world. Alexander, Napoleon, and other great men in history—great simply as conquerors—succeeded in establishing an empire over an immense portion of the world's surface; but it was an empire of conquest. The British Empire is not one of conquest, but one of love and affection—(applause)—and of those ties that bind together the different families of a great, and proud, and honourable people. (Cheers.) And, sir, we believe in Canada, as I am sure you believe in Scotland, that it is our peculiar mission upon the Continent of America to carry that flag unsullied from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and down, we hope, through long generations, until political phases, perhaps not now dreamt of, may arise to cause some changes which may be in the shape of a grand federation of all the Anglo-Saxon families of the earth, but which, I believe, at all events will be in the direction of promoting the happiness of mankind, and carrying into distant, and yet comparatively savage, nations, that civilisation of which the Red Cross of England and the Cross of St. Andrew are at once the symbol and the sign. (Loud cheers.) We have, to be sure, sir, one great branch of the Anglo-Saxon family alienated from us

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politically in the United States of America ; and we have sometimes reason to complain in Canada, as you have here, that that branch of the family is not over friendly on particular occasions. Still there is, even in that country, a great and powerful section of the people who appreciate and admire the greatness, the power, and the generosity of the British Empire. (Cheers.) They boast, sir, that their flag with its stars contains an emblem of God's greatness, as representing the most wonderful works of creation, extending over what Chalmers calls, "the immensity of space." We, on the other hand, can say that our flag represents a still greater work—one that was absolutely essential to the future and present happiness of mankind, and we present upon our flag the greatest of all God's works—the Cross, as the emblem of the redemption of man. (Loud cheers.) And, sir, if we continue, as I pray God we may continue, to live in amity and peace with the other great portion of our own people and our own blood, the two nations combined will be able to advance hand-in-hand, sweeping before them every vestige of despotism and cruelty and savage life from off the face of the earth. (Cheers.) Sir, I am aware, and every one is aware, of the necessity that there is in this country, and in our country, and in all parts of the British Empire, for maintaining such a force as may at once compel the imprudent and ambitious amongst the nations to respect the power, as they must respect the generosity of the British Empire ; and you will find, if you come to Canada at this moment, what I was privileged to witness on the North and South Inch yesterday and to-day, battalions and regiments of our militia putting in their annual drill, and fitting themselves to take their part, if required, in the defence of their country. (Cheers.) You will find also that we are at this moment establishing a military school, which will compare favourably in all its arrangements and details with the very best engineering schools—such as

the West Point School in the United States, the Polytechnic School at Paris, and the Sandhurst School in England,—in order to enable our young men to obtain such an education as will enable them to occupy the position of gentlemen and officers in our native force. We have, as you are aware, room in Canada for a still vaster population. I have referred to that in some of my published speeches,—and the reporters will excuse me for repeating it, as these published speeches are rather awkward things, and cannot be repeated elsewhere. (A laugh.) I have referred to some of those things we are doing to fit the Dominion of Canada to be the home of a vaster population than has yet been dreamt of. You are aware—and pardon me for saying it—that the British Islands are very small, and there is not room for many more people. One American humorist, after coming home from Great Britain, said he was afraid to go to bed at night lest he might fall into the sea while asleep. (Laughter). Well, that is a great exaggeration, still the fact remains that the industrial class of this country do multiply. It is the work of the country that requires the labours of so many, and we have in our country the most magnificent prospects as to elbow room that can be conceived, for you can get to many places and have no one to disturb you. But we are fast filling up these vast lands in the West, and few who know the healthiness of our climate, and the advantages to be derived from it, will hesitate at all in taking their departure, if they find that their services can be more profitably employed there, or that they can produce more to conduce to their comfort than in this country. I do not for a moment advise any one to leave comfortable positions in this country; but we merely say, if you find it convenient and profitable to leave this country, that we have abundant means and room to make you comfortable, And we believe in a comparatively short term of years we shall be able to extend our settlement from one end of the country to the other. We

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are at present completing a railway 2,600 miles in length to connect the east with the west. And, sir, I find that very enterprising individuals have gone far into the interior already. Very recently an Englishman went into the Valley of the Shenandoah, came back for his wife and family, and is now settled at a distance of 500 miles from Fort Garry. We are apt, in looking at that great country, to imagine that there will be serious difficulties, such as had been contended with in the history of the New England settlements, when the settlers had continually to fight with the Indians. The progress of civilisation, however, has put an end to all that; and while the Indian may be ready enough—and who can blame him for defending his own?—to resent an injury in a more savage manner than would be done by those longer civilised, yet all who act fairly with them in the Dominion of Canada will never find the slightest interruption from their presence. (Cheers.) It is due to the native tribes to state that, while my official residence is at Ottawa, my own home is on the shores of Lake Huron. There is there a native settlement of nearly 400, and during the time I have been there—since 1847,—there has not been one single Indian convicted of even petty larceny. (Cheers.) With regard, sir, to our position as a distinct people, I may freely express, and you may freely state to every one, that there is no people under the British flag more thoroughly devoted to the maintenance of British institutions than are the Canadian people. (Cheers.) I hope that Lord Kinnaid will find time to come and visit us, some time or other, before long. (Cheers.) He will then find that, if our Upper House is not so dignified a body as the great House of which he is an ornament, still he will find that our Senate will compare tolerably well with almost any Legislative body, for dignity of manner and temper in debate. (Cheers.) And I hope I may say for that House which I lead myself—the Canadian House of Commons,—that he will find comparatively little

difference—for I have seen them both—between it and the English House of Commons. (Cheers.) Sir, when visiting Paris, a few days ago, I was naturally desirous of visiting the French National Assembly. I went to Versailles for the purpose of visiting that great body in assembly, and I must say that the French in Canada, so far as conducting a debate is concerned, will compare very favourably with the National Assembly in their own country,—for our House of Commons contains a large number of Frenchmen representing French constituencies. (Cheers.) Now, my Lord-Provost, I am afraid I have wandered far too much—(“No, no,” and applause)—from the proper line of subject on such an occasion. I am aware, sir, that in receiving the freedom of the city of Perth, I am receiving the freedom of a city remarkable in Scottish history as the actual scene, or the vicinity, of some of the greatest events in our Scottish history. We are all aware, sir, that while the battle of freedom against the Southron, as we called them many years ago, was fought at Bannockburn, the battle of freedom against the Northern was fought in the vicinity of Perth, and the ancestors of a noble family in this neighbourhood were those who led on the Scottish people to victory. (Cheers.) I am aware that some of the most tragical circumstances in the history of the Scotch royal house took place in this neighbourhood; and I am aware that in the vicinity of this city,—not many miles from its northern front—one of the great battles was fought in which the Pretenders to the Crown of Great Britain against the will of the people of this country were defeated. (Cheers.) And I could not help, the other day in Dundee, repeating the words of the old song: “The town is weel rid o’ that Deil o’ Dundee.” (Hear laughter and cheers.) Although some of the greatest events in Scottish history have necessarily taken place at Stirling and Edinburgh, and places on the southern border, we know that it was in this neighbourhood where some of the great battles

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were fought in which the Romans sought to obtain universal dominion in these western isles, and here they were checked. Our whole county of Perthshire is associated with the arts of war. But your history, glorious as it is, will not alone sustain a great reputation. You must now put aside the arts of war, and deal with the arts of peace,—the progress of manufactures. I was amused to find in Dundee that the manufacturer every where came uppermost. We are now a great manufacturing people, and hope now to subdue the world to a great extent by our trade as well as by our missionaries and philanthropists. (Cheers.) And I can only express the desire that the "Fair City" of Perth may not be fair and beautiful alone because of its beautiful situation, because of the amphitheatre which surrounds it, but also because of its becoming a busy hive of industry, supplying work to all the people of the country districts around. (Loud cheers.) I thank you most sincerely, my Lord-Provost and gentlemen of the Council, for the great honour you have done me, and I can only say, sir, since you have been pleased to place my name in that illustrious roll, that I shall endeavour by my conduct in the future, and by all that is possible for me to do, to exalt the name of Britain, of Scotchmen, and of Canadians, and merit the distinction you have been pleased, so unexpectedly to confer upon me. (The hon. gentleman resumed his seat amidst great cheering.)

The LORD-PROVOST then called upon the assembly to give three cheers for the youngest burgess of Perth, and also for the Queen; and, after these had most heartily been given, the meeting broke up.

## BANQUET IN THE COUNTY HALL, PERTH.

Immediately after the meeting in the City Hall, a banquet was given in the County-Hall by Lord-Provost McDonald, in honour of the Hon. Alexander Mackenzie. To this banquet all the gentlemen officially connected with the city or county were invited, and most of them were present, including the Magistrates and Town Councillors, the city officials, the Water Commissioners, the clergy, Guildry Incorporation Managers, members of Parochial Board, School Board, heads of schools, &c.; there being nearly 200 present. The Lord-Provost occupied the chair; and he was supported on the right by the Premier; Sir Alexander Muir Mackenzie, Bart., of Delvine; Provost Cox, Dundee; Major Wedderburn, Royal Perthshire Rifles; Mr. Thomas Creig, of Glencarse; Bailie Ramsay; Mr. J. B. Brown Morison of Finnerlie; Mr. C. G. Sidey; Rector Miller, Perth Academy; and Treasurer Martin. On his left, the Lord-Provost was supported by the Right Hon. Lord Kincaid, Lord-Lieutenant of the County; Sheriff Barclay; Rev. Mr. Fleming, St. Paul's; Rev. M. Cowan, Free St. Leonard's; Mr. Charles Maclean, of Glencarn; ex-Lord-Provost Graham; Colonel D. R. Williamson of Lawers; Bailie Robertson, and Mr. John Thomas, Sheriff-Clerk, of Perthshire.

On entering the hall, the Lord-Provost and the Premier were preceded by one of the pipers of the 18th Perthshire Highland Rifle Volunteers.

The Rev. M. FLEMING, St. Paul's, having invoked a blessing, the company proceeded to discharge the business on the programme.

The LORD-PROVOST said he had received a number of letters of apology from gentlemen unable to be present, and amongst

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those were Viscount Stormont, Lord Charles Kerr, the Hon. Arthur Kinnaird, the Lord-Provost of Edinburgh, Major Malcolm of Glenalmond, &c.

The LORD-PROVOST proposed "Her Majesty the Queen;" and in doing so, he said—My Lord and gentlemen, the first toast on the programme is "The Health of Her Majesty the Queen." (Cheers.) In the presence of the honourable head of the Canadian Government, I think it is right that he should go home with the impression that our hearts are loyal, and entwine round about our Gracious Sovereign the Queen. (Cheers.) I am sure that all of us wish that she may live long, and that she may long reign. Without saying anything more, gentlemen, I would ask you to drink the health of our gracious sovereign the Queen. (Cheers.)

The splendid band of the Royal Perthshire Rifles was stationed in the lobby, and here played the National Anthem.

The LORD-PROVOST then gave in succession—"Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, and the other members of the Royal Family;" and "the Navy, Army, and Reserve Forces."

Major WEDDERBURN replied for the Army, and Col. WILLIAMSON for the Volunteers, the former officer paying a warm tribute to the Canadian Militia.

The LORD-PROVOST next proposed "Her Majesty's Ministers" and "the Lord Lieutenant of the County."

Lord KINNAIRD, the Lord Lieutenant, replied for the honor done him.

The LORD-PROVOST then gave the toast of "the Members for the City and County," and paid a just tribute to Mr. Kinnaird, M.P.

Lord KINNAIRD—As reference has been made to a very near and a very dear relative of mine, who has the honour of being



the representative of Perth in Parliament, I may say that I fully expected to meet him here to-day. It was only just before leaving home that I got a message, stating that having an important engagement on Monday, and as he would have to return to London again to-morrow, he found that his health not would permit him to come to Scotland and back, otherwise he would have been present. His Lordship afterwards read the following letter, which the Lord-Provost had received from the Hon. Arthur Kinnaird, and which was read at the Lord-Provost's request :—

2 Pall Mall, East, July 15, 1875.

MY DEAR PROVOST,—I am very sorry not to be with you in person to take part in the presentation of the freedom of the city of Perth to Mr. Mackenzie, the Prime Minister of Canada. His early connection with us renders the occasion one of very special interest to me. You are aware of my long and deep concern in the progress of our colonies, and I sure that what you will hear from his lips will justify the opinion I have long expressed that the welfare of our home population is bound up with that of our Colonial Empire. That Empire stretching round the globe, invites our overburdened island to send forth her sons and daughters to lay the foundations of new States enjoying the same liberties that ourselves possess, and offering to these every prospect of advancement. No limit can be placed on what anyone endowed with natural abilities and high principle may reach, and I earnestly hope that the ties which bind us together will be continually strengthened. Had I been present, I should have expressed the high sense I entertain of Mr. Mackenzie's abilities, as well as my own personal regard for him, and may I ask you to convey to him my best wishes on this happy occasion.—Believe me, my dear Lord-Provost, yours very faithfully,

A. KINNAIRD.

The LORD-PROVOST then proposed "The Hon. Alex. Mackenzie, Prime Minister of Canada." (Cheers.) He said—Mr. Mackenzie is a native of Perthshire, and born at the beautiful little village of Logierait. (Cheers.) I am sure we are all proud of the Hon. Mr. Mackenzie—(cheers)—who left our shores when a young lad to go to a foreign land. We are glad to see him return home with the highest honour that the Dominion of Canada could have conferred upon him. (Cheers.) We have often conferred the freedom of the city of Perth upon noblemen whom we desired to honour; but, so far as I know, this is the first time that we have had the opportunity of conferring such an honour upon one who was born amongst

us in humble life, and who, by his own industry, perseverance, integrity, and good sense, is now at the head of the Great Dominion of Canada. (Cheers.) In addition to that, I know, of my own personal knowledge, that our honourable friend on my right, rules that great country on sound principles, and, as a good man, ruling, knowing that he must rule for the good of the people. (Cheers.) I do not know, gentlemen, that it is necessary for me to say anything more. I always feel it painful to say anything concerning a man in his own presence. (Hear, hear.) I would much rather say that I would like to say of my honourable guest, behind his back—(hear, hear) although in general, when people speak behind one's back, it is nothing very favourable. (Laughter.) While we have this day conferred the honour of the freedom of the city upon one of humble parentage, I think that is very creditable to our honourable guest. (Cheers.) It occurred to me to-day that there was a strange coincidence in the affair, namely, that our friend from the Dominion of Canada has ousted the Macdonald Government—(great laughter, and cheers)—and when he comes to his native county, he finds a Macdonald Council. (Laughter and cheers.) Gentlemen, I feel very proud of being the mouthpiece of the Town Council to-day, and I would now ask you to drink a full bumper to "The health of the Hon. Alexander Mackenzie, Premier of Canada." (Enthusiastic cheering.)

Hon. ALEX. MACKENZIE, on rising to reply, was received with loud and continued cheering. He said—My Lord-Provost—my Lord, and gentlemen, I am sure if ever one was overpowered with kindness, I have been since I came to make this visit to my native country. I came because I had some business to do, but I came chiefly in order to obtain some little repose after two pretty severe years of official labour and parliamentary work. And, sir, when I left Canada to come to my native country, I had no idea that yourself, or any other

person here, knew of my coming; and when I find so many of the prominent gentlemen in this county, and in the neighbouring county, and in the city of Perth, and in the town of Dundee, anxious to extend to me the hand of friendship, and say encouraging words, I feel more than I can express, my obligations to you all for this kindness. (Cheers.) My friend, the Provost, has referred to the fact that I had something to do with the removal of one of his distinguished name from a particular office—(laughter and cheer)—and I can only hope that my visit to Perth will not have the result of ousting our worthy host from the Provostship. (Great laughter and cheering.) My friend beside me, Sir Alexander Muir Mackenzie of Delvine, suggests to me that it is a way the Mackenzies have of ousting the Macdonalds, as they did long ago on the ranks of the Garry. (Laughter and great cheering.) Well, sir, I can only atone to the Macdonalds by saying that my last official act was to appoint a Macdonald to be Lieutenant-Governor of the great Province of Ontario. (Cheers.) In this age of the world, I daresay that the Macdonalds may differ in politics, and the Mackenzies may also differ in politics. I do not know whether we do or not at this table; but, at all events, it is gratifying to know that we are now able in Canada, as in England, to meet socially, and discuss matters in a friendly spirit, even if we take different views of the policies adopted by the different political parties. (Cheers.) And, sir, it is one of the highest privileges that Britons enjoy that they are able to exercise that singular power of self-government they possess, without intruding upon those feelings which are sacred to every man. (Hear, hear.) Why, sir, if we had the fierce discussions sometimes seen in some of the Spanish Republics in South America, or in Spain itself, or even in some of the Continental countries, when we came to any election contest in Britain or Canada, it would result in the march of armed forces. The editor of a newspaper would not

only have to marshal his columns of letters, but would have to marshal his columns on the plains. We are able to exercise that self-government, if not always to the advantage and the welfare of the people, we know that those in power exercise the government entrusted to them for the welfare of the people. It may be that my political opponents do not always give me credit for what I do, and it may be that I do not always give them credit for what they do,—we will not quarrel over that, but we will always meet each other, political opponents though we be, without the slightest ill-feeling existing between us. (Cheers.) Sir Alexander Muir Mackenzie knows—for he has been in Canada, and indeed might almost become a Canadian—and if he does so, I think I could promise him a seat in Parliament—(cheers)—Sir Alexander Muir Mackenzie knows that when in Canada there was a very considerable excitement in the country on political subjects; and if ever there was a time when that political excitement might have led to personal estrangement it was then; but I am glad to say that the leaders of the Conservative party generally found no difficulty in meeting their opponents socially after that event—(cheers)—and thus it is over all the countries where our British Constitutional Government prevails. (Cheers.) It would be intolerable in our countries if we were compelled merely because of political differences to depart from the social custom by which we can all meet one another on occasions like the present, or at our more domestic tables. (Cheers.) I feel, sir, in receiving the mark of kindness you have been pleased to bestow upon me to-day—and also in Dundee on Tuesday,—that you are doing a very considerable amount of that kind of work which may be called the cementing together of great communities. (Cheers.) Not, sir, that I pretend to speak in a personal sense,—for I feel that you have honoured me for any little service I myself have performed far too much,—but I speak, from the position I am in, representing the people of

Canada,—which I may safely assume to do in all that relates to the political exigencies of the times and the political prospects for the future; and I am quite sure that the interchange of the courtesy betwixt us at the present time will have a very pleasant effect upon my own mind in all time to come, and upon those with whom I am associated in my own country. (Cheers.) You have alluded, Mr. Provost, to the circumstance that I was born in this neighbourhood. I feel as proud of the neighbourhood as does the Honourable the Lord-Lieutenant of the county of his official position as the head of the county. (Cheers.) As I said, sir, at Dundee, I hope that nothing will be done by myself, or by any of Perthshire's sons, that will in any way be of such a nature as to cause a feeling of regret on the part of any one that we do belong to this county. (Cheers.) I am glad to hear the sentiments expressed by gentlemen here and at Dundee in reference to the desire for extended enterprise both in relation to trade and in relation to social subjects, which are perhaps too much excluded from our ordinary assemblies both in this country and the colonies. I sincerely believe it to be the truth that the possession of the colonies by Great Britain is essential to Great Britain's length of life as a nation. (Cheers.) I do not say so merely to express an empty sentiment, or merely to impress anyone with an idea of the importance of our colonial possessions. I think, sir, and I believe that the people of Canada think, that their first principle and desire is to maintain the integrity of the Empire, and to extend the ramification of its power and its prestige into everything. (Cheers.) I do not think there is anything so satisfactory as to have powerful possessions in all the important quarters of the globe, in relation to the military sense as well as the commercial sense. During a time of great distress the British took possession of islands on the coast of France, a prominent peninsula on the coast of Spain, a stronghold in the Mediterranean, and a great fortress—or rather a site for a

great fortress—at the entrance to the Red Sea; and in this way extended its power in the military and naval sense, and ultimately in the commercial sense. All these great fortresses protected her ships and her people in a line all round the globe—(hear)—and if now—because of the different aspect of political of affairs on the Continent of Europe—we depend less upon mere military force and organisation, it is merely because of our possessions,—those powerful dependencies which are scattered over the globe, and which are presided over by the British ensign. (Cheers.) With the British people united in Great Britain and in the Colonies,—with the feeling of friendship and kindness between all the different classes of Her Majesty's subjects,—we may always bid defiance to the organisation of any Power, or usurpations of any combination of Powers; and that union of feeling and sentiment is the safety, I will not say of the British race merely, but it is the only safeguard of freedom throughout the whole world. (Cheers.) We have had, as Britain's noble allies in dangerous circumstances, such places as Holland, Belgium, and other places on the Continent, at various times; but these alliances may occasionally fail, from circumstances beyond the control of enlightened statesmen in this country. But the support of these colonies can never fail, except it be the fault of some of the statesmen that rule either on the parent side or in the Colonies. One or two of the aims of great statesmen are these: In the first place, every statesman is bound, whether in Australia, New Zealand, Canada, or Great Britain, to watch the course of legislation. He is bound to initiate legislation such as will conduce to the welfare of the particular portion of the empire over which he bears rule. So far as I am able I shall faithfully keep watch and ward over the interest of that portion of it that for the time being is committed to my care. (Cheers.) Another aim of every statesman must be the initiation or the promotion of such a policy as will look far into the future, and as will pre-

pare for possible events and contingencies which may overshadow the country. In the long roll of years, and in the thousand years that are spoken of in our famous national song, where "Our flag has braved the battle and the breeze," there were events that every one can name in the history of our country which point a moral and indicate a policy which should always be kept in view in initiating new legislation, projects which may seriously affect, for centuries to come, the prosperity of the people over which they rule. (Cheers.) I am afraid, my Lord-Provost, I have trespassed beyond the proper line for such a meeting as this—"no, no," and cheers)—in entering upon political philosophy. But, sir, I do it with a purpose, because I desire it to be understood what Canadian statesmen look to, and their desire is to enlist the sympathies of every person in this country, no matter whether Liberal or Conservative, in favour of those great principles of action which must control us in carrying forward the political interests of the country; and I am quite sure that here, as elsewhere in Great Britain, there will be a full and hearty response to the sentiments I, as Canadian, with very little pretension to time or occasion, have uttered. (Applause.) I thank you, my Lord-Provost, very heartily for the kindness with which you and the Lord-Lieutenant, and every gentleman present, have been pleased to receive me. I shall never forget your friendship, and shall relate to my colleagues in Canada and the people, when I meet them, the great kindness and warm feeling I have met with everywhere in Britain. (Loud cheers.)

Sheriff BARCLAY proposed "The Convener of the County."

Lord KINNAIRD proposed "The Sheriffs of the County."

Sheriff BARCLAY had great pleasure in replying on behalf of his principal, Sheriff Adam, his brother, Mr. Graham of Dunblane, and himself. He had just been told that for ten years he had had the privilege of having the Hon. Mr. Mackenzie in

his jurisdiction, and he would just say that it was highly creditable to the Premier that he and the Sheriff did not become intimately acquainted. (Laughter.)

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE proposed "The Lord-Provost, Magistrates, and Council of Perth." He said—It is many years since I have seen the city of Perth, but I am pleased to witness a very considerable improvement in some parts of the city; and I hope under the reign of the Macdonald regime—(laughter)—it may prosper still more. We have the Provost of Dundee beside us here. (Cheers.) He presides over a somewhat larger and very important town in your neighbourhood; but, as your Provost suggested the other day at Dundee, they may come up the river, and you may go down, and both meet, in which case the Lord-Provost of Perth would think that his order of precedence would give him rule. (Laughter and cheers.) At all events, I am quite sure my friend, the Provost of Dundee, will join heartily in the toast I have now the honour to propose, viz., "The Lord-Provost, Magistrates, and Council of the City of Perth." (Cheers.)

The LORD-PROVOST replied.

The Rev. Mr. COWAN proposed "The Dominion of Canada." In doing so, he said—My name has been put on the card opposite the Dominion of Canada; and I have very great pleasure in proposing that we wish continued and increasing prosperity to that great and growing colony. (Cheers.) It is a very large subject, comprising well on to  $3\frac{1}{2}$  millions of square miles—nearly thirty times as large, in fact, as the British Islands. It affords, I think, about a square mile to every man, woman, and child of the population—contrasting strikingly with our crowded state here, where we have some 260 to the square mile. It was my privilege to travel in Canada this time two years ago, and I was much impressed with the beauty, the vast extent, and the resources of the country. I was delighted with its prosperous cities, and sub-



stantial farmsteads, surrounded by fertile fields, and ombosomed in luxuriant orchards; besides which, I found everywhere wise heads, enterprising spirits, and, above all, warm friendships. I was there, too, sir, when a change of Government was in prospect; and I shall only say this—that I feel quite sure that every patriotic citizen in this country, and every friend of truth and righteousness, whatever his political creed, would, if he knew all the circumstances, have considered that a change of Government was quite necessary for the honour of Canada, and that honour was secured by the accession to power of the honoured guest of this banquet. (Cheers.) Sir, we have cause to wish well to the Dominion of Canada. Many in Scotland, and in Perthshire, have, like myself, friends and brethren there—friends and brethren who, by God's blessing, have prospered there, both in health and wealth, as, to all human appearance, they could not have done here. The larger portion of my own near relatives are in Canada. I ought, perhaps, to except the present moment, for a detachment of no fewer than ten of them, including a large representation of young Canada, arrived at Perth station three weeks ago, on a visit to friends on this side. Canada is destined, I have no doubt, to be even a greater home for our people in the future than in the past. My impression of it is, that it may go on filling up for the next hundred years at an ever-increasing ratio, and it will be still a new country in the end. Taking it altogether—in its agricultural and commercial—in its social, political, and, not least, in its religious aspect,—we may well wish it prosperity and blessing. And I ask you now to join heartily with me in the expression of the wish in the spirit of the Psalmist—"For my brethren and companions' sakes, I will now say, Peace be within thee. Because of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek thy good." (Cheers.)

Hon. A. MACKENZIE, in reply, said—I do not know, sir, whether I am the only inhabitant of the Dominion of Canada

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here or not, but I beg to thank you for the toast which the rev. gentleman has proposed. It is true what he says, that Canada presents many interesting features to the student of religious progress. During the last two years great events have taken place there, and one particularly gratifying, I have no doubt, to the great body of the people of Scotland. In Scotland you are still divided to a greater or less extent—I allude particularly to the Presbyterians as the great body of the people of Scotland—and these divisions occurred at a greater or less remote period. Such divisions extended also to Canada, but during last year arrangements for union were commenced, and are now completed; for the last paper I received from Canada contains the words of the Moderator of the joint Assemblies of the Presbyterian bodies of North America, declaring their union final and complete. (Loud cheers.) The great Methodist bodies have also effected a union—almost but not entirely, as complete as that of the Presbyterians. The unions of the great religious bodies in the Dominion will give increased power to those bodies, and will doubtless result in the accomplishment of much greater good than could have been obtained from isolated efforts. I am obliged to the rev. gentleman and to you for the kind manner in which he has proposed and you have received this toast; and I can only say that the kind words said respecting the Dominion of Canada will find a most hearty feeling of thanks on the part of every Canadian. (Cheers.)

Dean of Guild ROBERTSON proposed "The Provost, Magistrates, and Council of Dundee," to which Provost Cox suitably replied.

Sir ALEXANDER MUIR MACKENZIE proposed "The Hon. Mrs. Mackenzie," which the PREMIER acknowledged in appropriate terms.

Ex-Lord-Provost GRAHAM proposed "The health of Lord-Provost M'Donald," and Rev. Dr. TAYLOR, Canada, proposed

"The health of Lady M'Donald," to both of which his Lordship appropriately replied.

The proceedings were then brought to a close by the band playing the national anthem.

The arrangements in connection with the banquet were most complete. The tables were tastefully adorned with plants, and the viands were first-class; while the wines left nothing to be desired.

During the Premier's stay in Perth he was the guest of Lord-Provost M'Donald, who accompanied him to all the places of interest in the city and neighbourhood. The Premier also visited Messrs Shields' factory and other public works, and expressed himself highly delighted with what he saw.

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#### PRESENTATION OF AN ADDRESS AT DUNKELD.

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A public meeting of the inhabitants of Dunkeld and neighbourhood was held in the Royal Hotel Hall (late Masons' Hall), July 17, for the purpose of presenting the Hon. Alexander Mackenzie with an address in recognition of his distinguished services, and as being a native of the district. The platform of the hall was handsomely decorated with plants from Dunkeld Gardens, and flags were suspended from the windows in honour of the event. There was a very large attendance, and during the assembling of the company the Dunkeld Band (under the leadership of Mr. James Mackintosh) played a selection of popular airs. The chair was occupied by Mr. John Conacher, in the absence of his father, Bailie Conacher.

The CHAIRMAN, in opening the proceedings, said that owing to indisposition, his father was denied the great honour and pleasure of taking the chair on this interesting occasion to wel-

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come the Hon. Mr. Mackenzie back to the home of his youth. He then read a letter from Mr. Robertson, Old Blair, factor to His Grace the Duke of Athole, apologising for his inability to be present. The chairman concluded by calling upon the Rev. Mr. M'Pherson, Free Church Minister, who had been requested by the Committee to read the address which the inhabitants of Dunkeld and neighbourhood wished to present to the honourable gentleman.

Rev. Mr. M'PHERSON then read the address as follows:—

*To the Honourable Alexander Mackenzie, Premier of the Dominion of Canada.*

HONOURABLE AND HONOURED SIR,—We, the inhabitants of Dunkeld and neighbourhood, desire, on the occasion of your revisiting your native land, to express the sentiments of respect and admiration we entertain towards you in your present high position as Premier of the Dominion of Canada.

While we claim an interest in a spot not far distant as that where you first saw the light of heaven, we are proud to think that in Dunkeld, during your youth, you received those elements of education in your home amongst us, in our schools, which, we believe, to a great extent, laid the foundation of the eminence you have now attained as the head of the Government of one of the most magnificent of our Colonies, and one that has ever remained loyal in its attachment to Great Britain.

From the time you left Dunkeld, more than thirty years ago, and soon thereafter the shores of Scotland, we have marked with deep interest your steady career, and the development of those powers which God has conferred upon you. We have admired your perseverance,—your manly ambition in early aspiring to place and power in the administration of affairs in Canada,—the cultivation of mind, and those literary qualities, which you devoted towards the forming of a healthy opinion, through the public press—that noble independence of thought and uprightness of character, first as a representative for many years in Parliament, and, latterly, those wise and well-timed social and constitutional measures that have gone far to consolidate and unify the Dominion of Canada; owing their existence in a great measure to you. We now assure you, sir, that it is our earnest desire that you may long be spared, either to preside over or regulate the conduct of public affairs in that Colony, so closely linked to us, and whose capacities, in being blessed with a fine climate, a fertile soil, a fair market, and an industrious people, the means of a religious education in church and school, also of vast development by land and water, are such as belong to few, if any, of our other Colonies.

In conclusion, sir, while we now give you a most cordial welcome to Dunkeld, and wish you to know that your fellow-countrymen of all shades of opinion are proud of your career, we are persuaded that your example will inevitably stimulate the youth of this country and of Canada to cultivate and consecrate their gifts for the good of their fellow-men.

In name of the inhabitants of Dunkeld and neighbourhood.

JAMES CONACHER, Baron Bailie of Dunkeld.

Dunkeld, 17th July, 1875.

Rev. Mr. M'PHERSON continued to say—Overcoming many difficulties and disadvantages in early life by sheer strength of will,—by improving his time, his talents, his opportunities,—

our distinguished guest—to whom in doing honour we honour ourselves—has so commended himself to his fellow-countrymen in the land of his adoption as to become master of the situation—(cheers)—and with a masterly hand to steer the helm of Government in that Colony, of which, of all others that own the sovereign sway of our most noble Queen, we have good reason, on many grounds affecting both its past and present, to be proud. (Cheers.) I am sure I express the wish of all present in simply reiterating that sentiment in the address, that he may long be spared to take a leading part in the administration of affairs in the Dominion, guiding and developing its energies, stamping a Christian character upon its commonwealth, and in doing so cementing still further the tie that binds that fair and noble country to our own; while, at the same time, presenting to the great continent of America, North and South, a form of government which, perhaps, they might do well to imitate. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. PETER MACLAGAN, Beechwood, said—Mr. Chairman, ladies, and gentlemen, I have been requested to second the presentation of the address which has been read by Mr. M'Pherson; and perhaps I must explain why I have been fixed upon to do that, and I may say I do not know any other reason except it be that I believe I am the oldest schoolfellow that the Hon. Mr. Mackenzie has. (Loud cheers.) I cannot say that I am a Dunkeld man, but I am the next thing to it; and I think that the Birnam people and the Dunkeld people vie one with another in doing honor to Mr. Mackenzie. (Cheers.)

The CHAIRMAN (to Mr. Mackenzie)—It is now my pleasing duty, in name of the inhabitants of Dunkeld and neighbourhood, to present you with the address which has just been read; and in their name I wish you health and happiness and every blessing. (Loud cheers.)

The address was the workmanship of Messrs. Waterston & Son, Edinburgh, and was beautifully illuminated, and enclosed

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in a handsome case. It was surmounted by the Dunkeld arms, and the initial letter was ornamented with a Scotch thistle, and a deer's head, the crest of the Mackenzies.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE, on rising to reply, was enthusiastically cheered. He said,—Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, I assure you that no one can feel more than I do the kindness which I have experienced first at Dundee, afterwards at Perth, and now in the place which I call more peculiarly my native country—(hear, hear)—because in this place I lived for many years, and near it are the graves of my kindred, while many of the associations of my youth are connected with my life in this place. It is true, sir, that nearly forty years have changed the face of the place materially across the river, and it has changed the aspect of the faces whom at that time I would have witnessed gathered in your old Masons' Hall, and I see but few now whom I can well recollect when I look back upon that time. I am greatly obliged indeed to you, sir, for the remarks that you made; and I am greatly obliged to Mr. MacLagan, who kindly seconded the address, and brought to my remembrance my old school days. No one can remember with greater pleasure and more affection than I do the schoolboy days of Peter MacLagan and myself. (Cheers.) I can only say, if he is as much respected as a citizen in this neighbourhood, as he was by us schoolboys in Pitlochry and Moulin, I am sure he is a very popular man indeed. (Loud cheers.) You, Mr. Chairman, and the Rev. Mr. McPherson have alluded to the position which I occupy as the First Minister of Her Majesty in British North America. (Cheers.) Sir, it is purely in that character that I have received this address to-day; for while many of my early associates, if they were here, would be glad to give me a welcome, I am quite conscious it is to the fact that I hold a high official position that I am received by the people of this neighbourhood, who remembered in their kindness and generosity that I was one of

themselves, brought up among them, and subject to all the conditions of early Scottish life. (Cheers.) And, sir, I do feel as proud of the position I occupy, and of the country I represent, as it is possible for any human being to feel. (Cheers.) In that great Dominion which I have the pleasure of representing by the will of the Canadian people, we have plenty of elbow room; or, as my friend Dr. Taylor remarked in Perth, it is the Greater Britain, for while your country is great, while Britain will always continue to be great, still you have not the room that we have to extend. This, Mr. Mackenzie continued, was a reason why both in Britain and in Canada they should endeavour so to conduct the national affairs of the respective countries that their union would be indissoluble—(loud cheers)—and that their interests might be harmonised, as far as it was possible to harmonise interests presided over by independent Legislatures. (Cheers.) They were aware that in Canada their Legislature was as free to enact measures as was the Legislature of Great Britain, that the Governor-General occupied relatively the same position between people and Legislature as Her Majesty does in reference to the Parliament in London. They had in Canada the utmost possible scope for free action. Her Majesty's Ministers there were responsible to the people in the same way as Her Majesty's Ministers in London were subject to the verdict of the country. They had always the rights\*both of Britons and Canadians, for while those in this country could not be Canadians and Britons, it was the privilege of those in the Dominion to use both titles. While in this country they could not take precisely the same interest in their legislation as they did in ours, still they would understand that all Canadian legislation must necessarily be directed, if they were to continue a faithful and loving child of the parent, not merely to the encouragement of Canadian enterprise and the maintenance of Canadian institutions, but they must also keep

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looking far into the future towards the accumulative power of a great and powerful people many generations after all the present statesmen and the present men shall have passed away. (Cheers.) He believed that in America they were laying the foundations of a great and powerful nation—not that they used the term “nation” as a distinctive term, but merely because the poverty of the language did not supply them with another—and they had many initial difficulties to contend with. When once these initial difficulties were overcome, and they had opened up the country as they would open it, and in such a manner as would astonish some people here, then they would be in a position to increase their invitations to the British people, and provide homes for every one of them who could be spared from here. (Cheers.) Allusion had been made in two or three speeches to the fact that men might rise to any political position in some of our colonies. Well, it was the theory of our constitutional system that in England as well as in the colonies any man might aspire to any position that it was in Her Majesty’s power to bestow, or that of the people to sustain. But in order to realize that aspiration every man must devote himself to the cultivation of the intellect which God had given him. Without this cultivation it was utterly impossible to make any advance in the world in our time—(cheers)—for there was no royal road, as he had remarked in Dundee, to any position, political or social, in any of the colonies of Great Britain. (Hear, hear.) Nor should there be in any country. We should depend entirely upon the exercise of those intellectual gifts which God had granted to every man, and which should be cultivated assiduously if any position is to be gained in this world. (Hear, hear.) He did not presume to read a lecture to any one present, but he merely made these remarks to reply to certain letters he had received. So far as he had observed in the conduct of public business in Britain as in Canada, every man would have a fair field and no



favour, and be able to conquer with his own bow and spear that which he sought after. The Rev. Mr. M'Pherson had alluded in the course of his remarks to the religious condition of the people of Canada, and expressed a hope that under the present and future Governments it might grow up, not merely powerful in a physical sense, but powerful also in a moral and religious sense. He (the Premier) cordially re-echoed the expression of that hope—(cheers)—because he believed that the cause of Britain and all her colonies depended almost entirely upon the cultivation of a high Christian sentiment. (Cheers.) In conclusion he said—We are laying the foundations of a great and powerful people, and I believe the feeling of all political parties in Canada is that we should lay those foundations deep in great sentiments as well as in the verdant soil of the new world. (Cheers.) Whether we shall do our duty in that respect, I cannot say; but I have no doubt that our prosperity depends upon the success of the effort which I trust will be made, and upon its continuance. (Cheers.) I am very glad, Mr. Chairman, to have had the opportunity of saying a few words to the people of Dunkeld and neighbourhood; and I am glad, sir, to be permitted to pass a few days amongst these hills and vales surrounding this place, for indeed to-day I almost remember every turn of the road, every rock, and boulder round the town. I am delighted with the reminiscences, although sometimes shaded with sadness. Last year I had the pleasure of spending an evening with the late Rev. Charles Kingsley, a great traveller, and one of the most beautiful of English writers; and while speaking of scenery, Mr. Kingsley said,—“Of all the places I have ever visited, I know no place to compare with the country and the journey from Perth to Dunkeld and Blair-Athole.” (Loud cheers.) When we live long in a place, we often do not appreciate those natural beauties, as men very frequently fail to appreciate the advantages they enjoy of another kind. It is only travellers

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who come from a distance to see your beautiful country who understand its superiority to almost every other place. I have a few of my kindred still remaining in this neighbourhood, and I intend to devote a portion of my time to seeing how they all are; and a portion of my time I shall devote to calling upon friends wherever I shall meet them. (Cheers.) I have the greatest possible feeling for your kindness in presenting me with the address which I have just received, and I assure you I shall treasure this document, which contains such kind words, as one of the most pleasant reminiscences of my life. (Loud cheers.)

The Rev. Dr. LACHLAN TAYLOR, Canada, made a few remarks, after which three cheers were given for the Premier of Canada and for Her Majesty; and the meeting broke up, the band playing the National Anthem.

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### BANQUET AT DUNKELD.

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In the evening, at Mr. Fisher's Royal Hotel, a numerous and influential company sat down to an excellent and sumptuous banquet. The chair was taken by the Rev. Mr. M'Pherson, of the Free Church, Dunkeld. Mr. T. Jack acted as croupier, and among those present were the guests of the evening, the Hon. Alexander Mackenzie, Prime Minister of Canada, and Senator Brown, Toronto, Canada; Provost Cox, of Dundee; Messrs. Carphin, Duff, Dickie (bankers), MacLagan, Leslie, Thos. Potts, New Brunswick; A. Nicholson, of *The Gael*; P. Ross, P. Campbell, New Brunswick; K. Macdonald, John M'Gregor, John Robertson, William Harris, John Cameron, John Conacher, James Conacher, jun., John Scott, Roderick Anderson, Robert Anderson, John Robertson, Stralochie; John Fisher, Loaning; Thomas Buchanan, &c.

After the usual loyal and patriotic toasts had been disposed of,

The CHAIRMAN, in a neat speech, proposed "The health of the Hon. Alexander Mackenzie, Prime Minister of the Dominion of Canada,"—a gentleman whom he characterised as having done honour to his adopted country, to the town of Dunkeld, and to Scotland generally. (Cheers.) No man who had not rare gifts could attain to such a distinguished position, but it might be said that strong common sense, patience, perseverance, and the strictest honour were the characteristics which won for Mr. Mackenzie the eminence which he had secured. (Cheers.)

The Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE, who was received with loud applause, thanked his friends for such a manifestation of kindness to him, and said that he felt peculiar pride in being so kindly welcomed by the people of Dunkeld and its vicinity, when, after an absence of nearly forty years, he returned to the scenes so dear to him long ago, and so charming still. (Cheers.) He would never forget the cordial manner of his reception by the people of his native place,—the most gratifying testimony which a public man could receive being the acknowledgment by those who followed his course through life that he had done well. He made a long and eloquent speech, which was cordially received, and on sitting down the cheering was loud and well sustained.

The Hon. GEORGE BROWN, on his health being proposed by the chairman, was welcomed with ringing cheers. He spoke at some length, and with warmth and vigor. He referred to the pleasure it would give the Gaels in the West to see the handsome manner in which their friends at home had treated the Premier of their country, and especially would the honor done to Mr. Mackenzie in Dunkeld and Logierait be a source of gratification to the people of Canada. Mr. Brown, on resuming his seat, was loudly cheered.

Various other toasts were proposed and well received,

among which were:—"Mrs. Mackenzie and Mr. Mackenzie's Family," "The Baron Bailie of Dunkeld," "Provost Cox, of Dundee," "The Croupier," "The Chairman," by the Hon. Mr. Mackenzie, "Prosperity to the Dominion of Canada," by Mr. Carphin, "The Commercial and Agricultural Interests of Canada," by Provost Cox.

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### DEMONSTRATION AT THE PREMIER'S NATIVE VILLAGE OF LOGIERAIT.

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No sooner had it become known that the Hon. Alexander Mackenzie was on a visit to his native country, than the people of Logierait and neighbourhood made arrangements for a demonstration in his honor. Logierait, especially, had considerable interest in thus doing honor to the leading statesman of one of our greatest colonies, as here the hon. gentleman first saw the light of heaven. The Premier, too, is almost as highly honored in having Logierait for his birthplace as Logierait is proud of its connection with so important a personage. The village of Logierait is very pleasantly situated on a tongue of land between the confluence of the Tay and the Tummel, and on the southern end of Strathtay. Surrounding it on every side are some of Scotland's most magnificent hills. A splendid view is obtained of Ben Vrackie (The Speckled Rock), lying a little to the north of Pitlochry; and right above the village of Logierait is Craig-a-Cruith (the Cow's Rock), which derives its name from the fact of its being the cows' grazing ground, and which commands a magnificent view both of the vale of Athole and of Strathtay. In the distance westward, at the upper end of Strathtay, Faragon is seen rising its head about 3,000 feet from the sea; and in the remote distance Schiehallion pierces the sky with its enormous peak. On the

south, the village is bounded by the Grantully and Kinnaird Hills, and the valley in which the village nestles appears from the distance to be completely shut in by Birnam Hill and Craigybarns. Two or three miles on the north side of the Tay, the scene is rendered even more picturesque by a nice view of St. Colme's, the home-farm of Her Grace the Duchess-Dowager of Athole, and also of Kinnaird House, the jointure of the Duchess-Dowager of Athole, and which is tenanted by Mr. J. Duncan, an American banker. The scene is further enlivened by a view of the splendidly-situated residence of Mr. F. N. Menzies, the energetic secretary of the Highland and Agricultural Society. Turning our attention to the village of Logie-rait, which derives its Gaelic nomenclature from the fact of its being "The Hollow of the Fortress," our interest is concentrated on the house wherein the Premier was born, which was yesterday distinguished by a Union Jack. In this house the Premier spent the first five years of his life, after which the family removed south, till the year 1830, when the future Premier, then eight years old, took up his home at Pitlochry, and received his education. The house is an ordinary country dwelling of two storeys, rather low in the roof, but as comfortable-looking as any residence of a well-to-do country tradesman. The house was built by the Hon. Mr. Mackenzie's father, about 60 or 70 years ago. It is noteworthy that the precise locality on which the house is situated is still called *Clais-'n-deoir*, or "The Hollow of Weeping," because through this hollow prisoners were conveyed from the ancient prison of the Atholes to *Tom-na-croich*, or "Gallow's Hill." *Tom-na-croich* is an eminence of considerable interest on many accounts. At one time it was used as the site of a castle as well as the place of execution, and it is now surmounted by a magnificent monument, in the form of a Maltese cross, erected by the inhabitants of Athole and numerous friends to the memory of George Augustus Frederick John Murray, sixth Duke of Athole, and bearing an

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inscription, both in Gaelic and English, pointing out their regard and esteem for his character, and their grief for the loss the country had sustained by his death. The remains of a moat as well as of a drawbridge are still visible. In feudal times the Earls of Athole held Courts of Regality at Logierait, and some interesting stories are told of their power. At one time, a man named Stewart was confined in Logierait prison—one of the finest in the country, but now unfortunately demolished—under sentence of death. Great efforts were made by his friends to obtain a pardon, and a petition was presented to Mr. Forbes of Culloden, then Lord-President of the Court of Session, praying for a pardon. The Lord-President was then the guest of the Duke, who remarked that, as Stewart was rather a clever fellow, he would like to release him. The Lord-President asked how the Duke could release Stewart, as only the King had that power; but to this the Duke gave a practical answer by ordering one of his officers to liberate the prisoner. This ancient prison-house is also of some historical interest from the fact of the celebrated freebooter, Rob Roy, being once confined within its walls, and succeeding in making his escape. Logierait was also at one time the hunting-ground of the ancient Kings of Scotland, and the names of some of the places in the neighbourhood show their connection with ancient royalty.

#### THE BANQUET.

The banquet took place on July 20, in a large marquee erected on a field belonging to Mr. Wm. Stewart, of the Logierait Hotel, and situated directly opposite the house where Mr. Mackenzie was born. The marquee was beautifully decorated with flowers and flags, a large Union Jack and the flag of the Dominion being hung at the back of the chairman. Sir Alex. Muir Mackenzie, Bart., of Delvine, presided; and the croupiers

were Mr. John Robertson, Old Blair; Mr. John Duff, Banker, Dunkeld; Mr. P. M'Naughton, Bail'aneas. The general company included Mr. Barbour of Bonskeid; Mr. Andrew Coates, Bridgend House, Perth; Mr. Wallace, Tullymet; Mr. M'Lauchlan, The Meadows; Councillors M'Kenzie and Thomson, Perth; Mr. Wm. Reid, solicitor, Perth; Captain Harris, Dunkeld; Rev. Messrs. Grant, Tullymet; M'Lean, Grandtully; Fraser, Logierait; Norman M'Leod, Blair-Athole; Fraser, Dalguise; M'Kenzie, Kenmore; and Reid, Ballinluig; Rev. Dr. Lachlan Taylor, Toronto; Mr. Angus Nicholson, of *The Gael*, emigration agent for Canada in the Highlands; Dr. Reid, Aberfeldy; Dr. D'oye, Grange, Pitlochry; Mr. M'Kerchar, banker, Aberfeldy; Mr. Fisher, Pitlochry; Mr. Peter MacLagan, of Beechwood; Lieutenant Munro; Mr. Butter, Bleabock; Mr. Lumsden, Pitcastle; Mr. M'Donald, Killiechassie; Mr. John Kippen, solicitor, Perth; Mr. John M'Donald, wine merchant, Perth; Mr. Scott, Strathtay; Mr. C. Stewart, Aberfeldy; Mr. Cowan, Toronto, &c.

The proceedings were commenced by the Rev. Mr. Fraser, Logierait, asking the blessing, and after a most substantial repast—which reflected the greatest credit upon the resources of the Logierait Hotel—thanks were returned by the Rev. Mr. Grant.

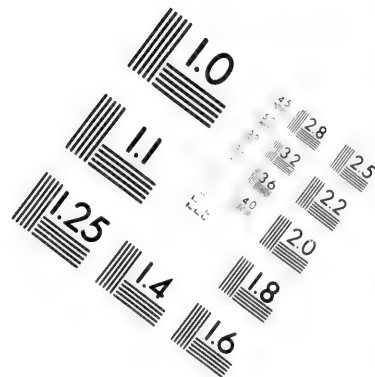
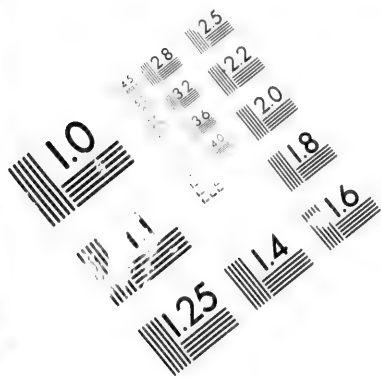
The CHAIRMAN afterwards stated that letters of apology had been received from the Lord-Provost of Perth, Principal Tulloch, of St. Andrews, and Sheriff Barclay, expressive of their great regret at being unable to be present.

After the customary preliminary toasts,

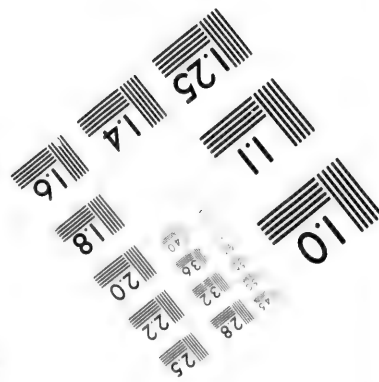
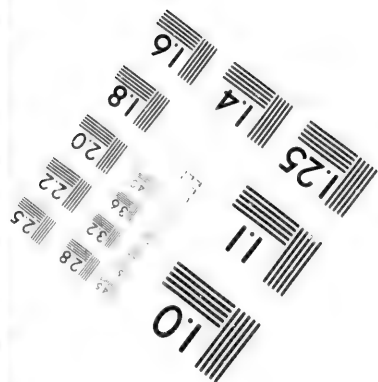
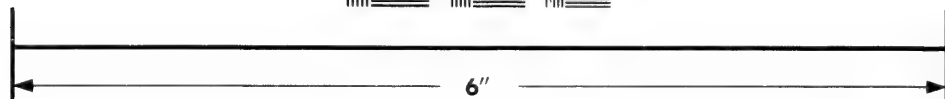
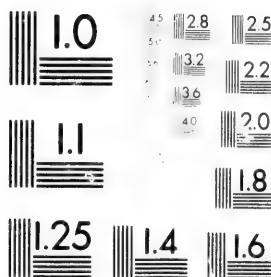
The CHAIRMAN proposed "The Hon. Alexander Mackenzie, Prime Minister of Canada." In doing so, he said—I may be allowed to explain how so humble an individual as myself has been entrusted with so important a duty. When I heard that our honoured guest was to meet with a warm "hame-coming,"

I hoped to be present and officiate in a small degree. The Duke of Athole was to have been in the honourable position I now occupy. From what I know of the strong personal sympathy and interest the Duke has in every one born in Athole, I am able to say that no one would have been more glad to have occupied this chair, and do honour to a distinguished native of Athole. (Cheers.) But as he was prevented by previous engagements from being present, and as you could get no one nearer home, you have been pleased to ask me to preside, and to express to Mr. Mackenzie all the warm feelings that are now in your hearts. (Cheers.) Mr. Mackenzie has, within the last few days, received the highest honours that two great towns in our neighbourhood could pay him. People of all opinions and classes have met to testify by their presence how they desired to do him honour, as the man who has—from, indeed, a humble, but none the less honourable position—raised himself to the high station we are so proud to see him fill. (Cheers.) In these demonstrations, speeches have been made expressive of the high admiration we have of the manner which our guest has adopted in controlling the policy of his country. But I can imagine that all these manifestations of the high estimation in which he is held will touch him less than this expression of hearty, loving, Highland welcome back to his native place. (Cheers.) This, I conceive, is the spirit in which we have met to-day, to show Mr. Mackenzie that Logierait has not forgotten her son, and is proud of the honor he has brought her. (Cheers.) Scotchmen, and Highlanders especially, have a strong interest in Canada. Were not the two great waterways, in the days when all was barrenness and wilderness, named the Fraser and the Mackenzie? (Cheers.) The capital of one of the provinces is called after one of our beautiful rivers—the Garry—(cheers)—and those who knew old Priest John know how beneficent a rule was exercised in the Gaelic-speaking district of Glengarry. But it has been left to these latter times



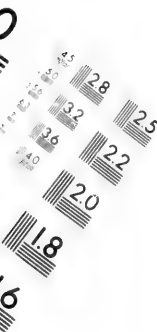


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for a Macdonald, and a Mackenzie, to carry out the grand theme of Federation, by which the separate great States will soon be bound by as strong a tie of common policy as are Scotland and England of to-day. (Cheers.) We could not wish better to Mr. Mackenzie than that he should be spared to see this great consolidation take place, opened up by commerce, and inhabited by recruits from this country, and to take rank as one of the foremost States of the world. (Cheers.) I do not touch upon Mr. Mackenzie's career, for that may be spoken to by abler tongues than mine. We praise his energy, his uprightness, and fidelity to his duty. Here, near to his old home, he stands an example to his fellow-men what those noble qualities can achieve. It may not be given to every man to succeed as Mr. Mackenzie has done, but it is given to every one to try—(hear, hear)—whether here or in a distant colony, to win the favour and respect of all. (Cheers.) The chairman went on to say that he had the pleasure of knowing Canada tolerably well, having served there with his Regiment, during which time he had travelled from Halifax to Red River. No one in Britain could conceive the prodigious distances to be traversed in Canada. He remembered on our occasion when fishing on the Restigouche River meeting a man moving his family in a large canoe. On asking the man if he was leaving that quarter, he replied,—“Well, yes. There was a new settler come in forty miles up, and as he always hated being crowded, he guessed he'd go west out of the way.” (Cheers and laughter.) He hoped all the aspirations of their guest would be amply realized for Canada. The people of Scotland were all delighted to hear of the prosperity of Canada, for they had many friends in that country. After some further remarks, the Chairman called on the company to drink to the health of Mr. Mackenzie in true Highland fashion (one foot on the chair, and the other on the table) which was done with great enthusiasm.

The Rev. Mr. FRASER, Logierait, was called upon to read

the following address, which was afterwards handed to the Hon. Mr. Mackenzie :—

*To the Honourable Alexander Mackenzie, Premier of the Dominion of Canada.*

SIR,—So soon as it became known that you had arrived in England, an earnest wish was expressed by all classes of people in this district that you should visit your native parish, and afford to the inhabitants there an opportunity of welcoming to Logierait one of the most distinguished of her sons. And now that we have the privilege of giving you a public reception within a few yards of the house in which you were born, and of the church near which reposes the dust of many of your honoured kindred, we desire to express the hope that you will not measure, by our inadequate expression of it, the pleasure which we feel in having you amongst us.

You have already, since you landed on the shores of Britain, received many public tributes to the eminent abilities and sterling personal worth which have commanded the homage of our loyal fellow-citizens in the country of your adoption, and which have placed you in the exalted position of First Minister of the Crown in the great Dominion of Canada. We cordially and gratefully homologate all that has been said (on more conspicuous platforms, and in more illustrious assemblies than you expect to find in your secluded, though romantic, native village) as to the wisdom with which you have guided the counsels of the country in which you now reside, and as to the beneficial influence which you may be confidently expected to exercise on the progress of religion and the development of commerce, art, and industry in the Dominion of Canada.

As Athole men and Highlanders, we all feel an honest pride in contemplating the eminence which you have attained ; we rejoice that you have found it possible to obey the impulse, which you have doubtless often felt, "to return to the land of your fathers and to your kindred ;" and, since we in "*Tir nam Beann, nan Gleann's nan Gaisbeach*," dare not hope to detain you long from your arduous public duties, we can only pray that the blessing of Almighty God may go with you where you dwell ;—we cherish the belief that your illustrious career will be an incentive to our children to value the blessing of a good education, and, in the battle of life, to "Trust in God and do the Right."

Signed on behalf of the inhabitants of the village and parish of Logierait, by

JAMES FRASER, M. A., Minister of Logierait.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE was received with great cheering. He said that of all the pleasant gatherings he had had the pleasure of attending since his arrival in Scotland, this was in some respects the most touching. He was now standing where fifty years ago he had played as a child, within sight of the house where he first saw the light. Tender recollections of father, mother, brethren and friends welled up in his memory, and almost deprived him of utterance. (Applause.) Within a few hundred yards was the burial place of his ancestors, which he had visited to-day, after a long, long absence. Could all the dear ones of his family who had departed, and whom he had known, have met him to-day, the gathering would have been

divested of a tinge of sadness which he could not prevent stealing over and oppressing his spirit. He recognized few faces at the table, though the names were familiar, but among them he gladly recognized some old friends of his father's, whose names and faces would never be forgotten. (Cheers.) When coming up from Dunkeld, and once more entering the heart of the Highlands, he could not help looking back upon the noble range of the Grampians, which once afforded a barrier to the southern intruder. Sir Alexander had referred to their going south to Delvine to get a chairman, and it occurred to him (Mr. Mackenzie) that had he not possessed a Highland name, he could never have gone south of that barrier. (Laughter and cheers.) They would recollect that many of our people in days long gone by thought there was no great harm in taking an occasional excursion over the Grampians for a particular purpose, and it was very kind of Sir Walter Scott to excuse these predatory excursions in his *Lady of the Lake*, when he said : —

These fertile plains, that softened dale,  
Were once the birthright of the Gael;  
The stranger came with iron hand,  
And from our fathers reft the land.

Pent in this fortress of the North,  
Think'st thou we will not sally forth,  
To spoil the spoiler as we may,  
And from the robber rend the prey?

(Cheers.) He was proud that one of his clansmen had succeeded in wresting so many of these fertile vales from those intruders, and bringing them back to where they should never have been taken from. (Laughter and cheers.) He was delighted to see so many Highland faces present, and he only regretted he was not able to speak to them in his own language. (Laughter.) It was exceedingly pleasant for him to be here to-day, and to see so many of those who were the friends of his youth, and so many gentlemen who knew only that his father and his father's family were in this parish long

ago, and were kind enough to come here, like the chairman, to say a kind word on the occasion of his visiting his native land. (Cheers.) He had met many of the Athole people in all parts of Canada, one being a prominent merchant in New Brunswick and a member of the Dominion Senate. He would on this occasion be able to renew the acquaintance-ship which time had nearly blotted out. But it was not very probable that he would again have the privilege of meeting many of those now present. The rapid means of communication now established by sea and land, did, however, bring us much nearer to each other than we were when he left Athole thirty-five years ago. He was forcibly reminded of this by seeing two friends from Toronto present at this gathering. The ocean crossing was now but a ferry; while in Canada, as in Britain, the rush of the locomotive was everywhere heard. (Cheers.) The Valley of the Tay and the Pass of Killierankie are made highways for railway traffic. The Tay and the Tummell, which he remembered as great rivers, are crossed and recrossed at a bound, in one respect not improving the country, as the romance of old association is destroyed; but the progress of the country demanded the change. He felt it a real pleasure to know that no improvement could remove the everlasting hills which surrounded them, and lent a beauty to the scene which he confessed Canada could hardly yield. (Cheers.) Canada could, however, do something in presenting the beautiful and especially the majestic in nature. All the rivers in Scotland would not make a St. Lawrence, while the largest of the Canadian lakes was larger than all Scotland. Their great boast in Canada, however, was that it afforded so much to the great mass of the people of solid comfort. Many thousands of its farmers were enjoying all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life, as the inevitable fruit of their own industry—comforts they could never have been assured of here. (Cheers.)

There almost every man, however humble, had a hold on the soil. They had neither laws of entail nor of primogeniture. The people elected their own municipal councils in town and country, and these councils levied the rates for municipal and school purposes. For many years they had had a splendid school system in operation, and although their schools had, perhaps, not been so effective as the parochial schools of Scotland, yet they were far in advance of anything to be found in almost any other country. He had alluded elsewhere to the necessity—speaking in the higher sense of political wisdom, apart from mere sentiment—of having two political systems on the continent of America. In this connexion he might state the service rendered to human liberty by the existence of a free Canada, when it was the sole city of refuge for the poor hunted Negro. (Loud cheers.) Thank God, the era of human slavery in the United States had now passed away. (Great applause.) But he could not forget the important part played by Canada in terminating the slave masters' power. (He r, hear.) In Britain they could not very well realize how much there was in their own proud boast that—

Slaves cannot breathe in England ; if their lungs  
Receive our air, that moment they are free ;  
They touch our country and their shackles fall.

But in Canada he had often at the frontier met the wretched slave escaping from his taskmaster, after a perilous journey of hundreds of miles, with nothing to guide him in his night journeys but the North Star; and there he could see the power of the Red Cross flag, the sight of which stopped the pursuit, and proclaimed the Negro fugitive a free man. (Loud cheers.) The area of human freedom was now broadened by the size of the United States as to territory, but still more by the now pure and wholesome moral influence of a great people being thrown into the scale as against every kind of oppression. (Applause.) In many other ways the

British colonies in America had led the van. Their commercial legislation was of a more enlightened character than that of the United States, their municipal system much more complete. Indeed the municipal system of Canada was the most complete in the world, from a scientific point of view. It placed the entire local taxation in the hands of the ratepayers, both as regards all ordinary municipal expenditure, such as roads, bridges, drainage, and public buildings, and school expenditure. In these and other matters the British in Canada had an advantage over the old land. They had the experience of their forefathers to guide them. They had a clean slate on which to lay down improved systems of arrangements essential to self-government. They had swept away the miserable attempts to create Church establishments dependent on State support, and declared all churches and religious beliefs equal in the eye of the law, and therefore equally entitled to its recognition and protection. (Loud cheers.) Canada was attached to the monarchical system, but yet intensely democratic in its internal system of administration ; as Lord Dufferin had said when addressing an audience in Chicago,—“more democratic than in republican America.” It was in every sense “the home of the free,” and had on every possible occasion proved itself to be also “the land of the brave.” (Cheers.) Mr. Mackenzie then referred briefly to the railway enterprises of Canada, and to the recent letter of Mr. Potter casting discredit on Canadian undertakings showing that Mr. Potter’s statements were either entirely erroneous or very grossly exaggerated. He especially referred to a single fact : Mr. Potter had stated the capital account of the Grand Trunk Company to be over £30,000,000, when the actual expenditure on the construction of that road was less than £15,000,000, of which amount Canada furnished over £3,000,000 without interest. Canada had of course many initial difficulties to contend with, like all new countries, but these difficulties were being gallantly met by the nation and by



individuals. In conclusion, he thanked his countrymen very earnestly for their great kindness in meeting him to-day as they had done in his native parish. He should never cease to take the warmest interest in the district and the country, although Canada would claim his first attention. (Loud applause.)

Later in the day Mr. MACKENZIE was called on to reply to the toast of the Dominion. He said that in replying to this toast, he would not long detain them. He might in the first place give some information of a kind which would show the extent of the country. From the entrance of the Gulf of St. Lawrence to Montreal, ships of any size or burthen could navigate our waters a distance of over a thousand miles. From Montreal to the head of Lake Superior, a distance of over 1600 miles, vessels of 500 tons burthen could penetrate by the St. Lawrence and great lakes almost to the heart of the continent. From this point it was about 400 miles to Red River, a large stream rising in the United States and flowing due north falling into Lake Winnipeg, about 100 miles north of the boundary line. This lake was about 250 miles long, with an average width of about 50 miles. Between this lake and Lake Superior there was a chain of lakes, the principal of which were Lake of the Woods and Rainy Lake, each being larger than all the lakes of Scotland combined. The great river of the prairie country, the Saskatchewan, which takes its rise in the Rocky Mountains, flows from thence east by north, and falls into Lake Winnipeg, about its centre. Some idea may be formed of the extent of this vast undulating plain called the prairie country by the fact that the Saskatchewan can be navigated for twelve or fourteen hundred miles westward from where it joins Lake Winnipeg. The South Saskatchewan rose on the boundary of the United States, in longitude 115, and joined the main river in longitude 104, after a somewhat crooked course. This branch was also

navigable almost its entire length. Between Lake Winnipeg and the South Saskatchewan there were two lakes, Manitoba and Winnipegosis, each of which measured about one hundred and twenty miles in length by twenty or thirty miles in width. From the Rocky Mountains to Lake Superior and from the United States boundary to the northern limit of land suitable for settlement, there was an area of not less than 420,000 square miles. This great country was to a great extent still in the possession of the Indians, though Canada had extinguished the Indian title by purchase of a very large portion, and the balance would soon be acquired. The Canadian Government had always, as he explained the other day, taken every precaution to deal fairly by the Indians, by recognizing their rights in the country, and treating with them, instead of fighting them; which policy was the right one from all points of view, of humanity, justice or pure selfishness. Beyond the Rocky Mountains lay Columbia, a vast but almost unknown country, having as yet only a small population, but containing great resources, especially in mines of iron, coal, gold and other metals, with vast forests of merchantable timber. The coal fields east of the Rocky Mountains were of enormous extent, embracing from south to north probably not far from 2,000 miles, extending from the boundary to the Arctic Ocean. These statements, made in this rough way, conveyed something to the mind of the extent of this "Greater Britain," without taking into account the extent and resources of the Provinces of Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island. These Provinces contained now nearly four millions of people, and we had room for many more than could be taken for many years to come. They had also rich mineral districts; especially was this true of Nova Scotia, where very rich deposits of coal and iron were found in close juxtaposition. The climate of Canada was among the best in the world in point of health, though subject to some drawbacks like

other countries; but one thing was certain, it was the happy home of hundreds of thousands, who had left the crowded towns and country of Britain. The conditions of life were much the same as here. No Briton could feel from home in Canada. With these general remarks he begged to thank them very cordially for the toast of the Dominion. He had no doubt that the Rev. Dr. Taylor, who was present, and who was the accredited agent of the Dominion, would here and elsewhere give fuller information than he could give in a short after-dinner speech. (The hon. gentleman resumed his seat amidst loud applause.)

Various other toasts followed, including "The Dominion of Canada," to which the Premier replied, and concluded by proposing "The Land of Hills, and Glens, and Heroes," which was acknowledged by Mr. McNAUGHTON.

Mr. DUFF, banker, Dunkeld, proposed "The health of Mrs. Mackenzie," to which Mr. MACKENZIE replied.

The company then broke up by giving three cheers for the Queen.

The whole proceedings were of the most agreeable and pleasant description, and the various arrangements reflected the greatest credit upon the Committee of Management. The proceedings were considerably enlivened by the playing of two pipers—Mr. George McPherson, piper to the Duchess-Dowager of Athole, and Mr. John Macdougall, Fuaran. A band was also present. Each gentleman was presented with a beautifully-illuminated card, as a memorial of the interesting gathering.

## ADDRESS FROM THE GREENOCK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

GREENOCK, August 3.—Hon. Mr. Mackenzie, Prime Minister of the Canadian Dominion, and who is at present on a visit to his native country, yesterday reached Greenock, whither he had been invited by the members of the Chamber of Commerce. The hon. gentleman, under the guidance of Mr. Kinnipie, engineer, proceeded to inspect the harbour and docks. At three o'clock the distinguished visitor met with the members of the Chamber in the Council Hall. There was a good attendance. Ex-Provost Morton presided.

The SECRETARY read the following address, which had been prepared for presentation to Mr. Mackenzie :—

To the Honourable Alexander Mackenzie,—Sir,—The members of the Chamber of Commerce and Manufacturers of Greenock have great pleasure in bidding you welcome to your native country, and in offering their congratulations on your visit to this town. As Prime Minister of the Dominion of Canada, you are aware of the close ties which exist between this port and the country over whose political affairs you so worthily preside. Many of the citizens of Greenock have betaken themselves to your side of the Atlantic with a view of establishing themselves as merchants, while a large number have found settlements as proprietors of land; and between these temporary and permanent residents in Canada, and the kindred they have left behind, constant and warm intercourse is maintained, accompanied by extensive trade, beneficial to both countries. We rejoice to see in you a friend and promoter of freedom of trade in all departments. The countenance and support which you extend to all schemes for increasing the facilities for internal traffic by means of roads, railways, and canals, sufficiently prove your enlightened zeal for the prosperity of your adopted country, and we read with satisfaction of the same encouragement afforded to commerce by the construction of graving docks for ships and otherwise. In offering this testimony of our consideration, we wish to be understood as expressing our respect for your great abilities and high personal character, and at the same time our desire to send through you a message of friendship and goodwill to the people of the Dominion, and we hope you will be long spared by Divine Providence to aid by your talents in spreading the blessings of freedom, education, and material prosperity over the breadth of the land. (Loud applause.)

Mr. MACKENZIE, who was received with loud applause, in reply said—Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—Nothing could be more gratifying than the pleasure you have afforded me in

thus meeting with many of those who are interested in the foreign trade of Great Britain, as well as her colonial possessions. The welcome which you have given me—partly for myself, but chiefly because I am the representative of one of Great Britain's colonies—will be held in grateful remembrance by myself, my colleagues in the Government, and the people of Canada. (Applause.) I can assure you nothing has given me greater pleasure than to be able to visit the great marts of commerce in Great Britain; and to have visited Great Britain without visiting the great seaport of the Clyde, would be an act—I was about to say of madness—as here we witness, above all other places, one of the great sources of Britain's greatness—her shipbuilding trade, and her export business. (Applause.) It is true, as the chairman has said, that Canada possesses a vast territory; true, some of it is a little cold, and some of it is very remote; but we are not without the means of obtaining access even to the interior parts, which are at present considered very remote from civilization. A great work which Canada is now prosecuting will in time, and not a very long time, extend all the blessings that you enjoy in your favoured islands even to the remotest districts, and which are at present so far removed from the usual haunts of commerce. We have, as has been indicated, done much in Canada, poor and sparsely peopled as the country is, to promote the interests of commerce. Canada has expended within the last thirty years a sum of about £10,000,000 sterling in improving the navigable waters connecting the great lakes with each other and with the waters of the St. Lawrence, and the policy of the present Government is to carry out these improvements to a much greater extent than was ever contemplated when the works were undertaken. A very few facts may perhaps be interesting to gentlemen present respecting these works. When it was proposed, more than 30 years ago, to improve the then small canals and to

build works connecting the interior waters of Canada, the utmost capacity of the locks was about 500 tons. In other words, the locks were about 150 feet long by 26 feet wide. In the course of a few years these means were found to be entirely inadequate, owing to the increase in the size of the vessels—sailing ships and steamers—engaged in trading; and at present a great portion of the tonnage on Lake Erie, Lake Huron, and Lake Superior is composed of vessels of from 700 to 1,200 tons burthen. We have therefore determined to increase the capacities of the internal works, so that we will be able to take a vessel through from the ocean to Lake Superior of 270 feet long by 44 feet beam. This will admit a class of vessels which will carry from 1,500 to 1,600 tons, and enable us to compete successfully with the ordinary means of communication existing at present through the United States. It is quite true that we have adopted these measures in a spirit of selfishness; but a spirit of selfishness and confidence is one of the first considerations of every British statesman. The people of Canada believe that the same spirit, and the same enterprise, and the same expenditure of money, which have made the Clyde one of the greatest rivers of the world, will, within the lifetime of the oldest person now present, make the St. Lawrence the great highway to the interior of the continent of America—a highway which cannot possibly have any rival. (Applause.) You have also alluded to other improvements being made in Canada. I have referred elsewhere to the Pacific Railway, and described the geographical position which it occupies; and I will only call attention to the fact that when our transcontinental route is completed we will be 1,000 miles nearer Japan than the port of San Francisco, the United States' great seaport on the Pacific. Montreal is, on the other hand, 400 miles nearer Greenock than New York is. Seeing that there are 400 miles gain at the one end, and 1,000 at the other, I think

it may be prophesied that within the lifetime of many before me a great trade will be done through this new route with China and Japan—a trade which will be of great advantage to Canada and other countries. I think a distance of 1,400 miles in favour of this route ought to be calculated, if distance and expense are to be regarded in relation to trade at all. Mr. Mackenzie next proceeded to dwell on Canada's position as a great field for emigration—a subject which he had treated of in his previous public speeches. Canada, he thought, was a more favourable home for the emigrant than the United States could be. He went on to say,—I do not intend for a moment to disparage the power and position of the United States. It is a great country ; its resources are enormous, its riches are almost incalculable ; still disadvantages exist there which do not exist with us. A very large portion of its territory is almost tropical in its climate, and is therefore not so favourable as our own. As I said somewhere else recently, we of the northern nations have always been, I might say, the conquerors of the world—we have been conquerors certainly in commerce ; and I do hope the people of Canada at all events will possess the mental and physical vigour which have characterized those of this country, and which will enable them to maintain their own against all lands, and entitle them to adopt the proud boast which is inscribed as a motto on some of the United States newspapers :—

No pent-up Utica contracts our powers,  
For the whole boundless continent is ours.

That applies to us more than they, for we possess a larger share of the continent. (Applause.) I look forward with great pleasure to the expectation, which I hope will be realized, that all parts of the British dominions will always be able to maintain friendly relations and that friendship which become people who are all speaking the same language, and who are

all so much indebted to Great Britain and Ireland for the privileges they have. And while fondly entertaining the belief that these relations will not be easily disturbed, should they happen to be disturbed, Canada has 780,000 men whom we are able to train to arms. (Applause.) Reference has been made by the chairman to the former condition of a portion of Canada, where there was something like an outbreak against British authority. Without going into any justification of that outbreak, and without referring particularly to those outbreaks which occur nearer home than Canada, I have merely to say that all rebellions, everywhere, whether in Canada or Ireland, Scotland or England, have originated in injustice. And while I delight to know that there is no cause whatever for any discontent at the present moment in any British colony, I may say that the cause of discontent on former occasions was simply an attempt to legislate improperly for people thousands of miles away from the central authority, which central authority could not possibly understand the mind of the people. You have been kind enough, gentlemen, to express the hope that I might long continue in the position which I now occupy. I represent a constitutionally-governed country. My continuance in that position depends precisely as in this country—on how long I can maintain a Parliamentary majority. I can only say I thank you heartily for your kind wish in that regard; but I may say that one can only hold the position of Prime Minister of Canada so long as the national interests are fairly administered, as I have no doubt they will always be, whatever political party is in power. (Applause.) Mr. Mackenzie next proceeded to notice the fact that nearly our entire population is engaged in manufacturing pursuits, only 18 or 19 per cent. being engaged in agriculture, while exactly the reverse was the case in Canada. There, nearly half the population was engaged in agriculture, and only a small percentage followed manufacturing callings. A very large portion of the



population of the Dominion, however, was engaged in shipping—especially was this the case in the maritime provinces. As showing the value of that population to Great Britain, he stated that there were about 90,000 men engaged as sailors, common seamen, and fishermen in Canada. And next to Britain, the United States, and France, Canada was a good deal ahead by herself of the other shipping Powers of the world. He was sure that if the Canadian flag was to be distinguished in any way, they would often see it in their port with vessels that had been built on the other side of the Atlantic. The hon. gentleman said that in Canada there was a very large French population, a considerable German population, and, with the populations from England, Ireland, and Scotland, these constituted the population of the Dominion; and there was not a portion of the British people either in India or the Colonies who were more devoted subjects of the Queen than were his French fellow-subjects in Canada. (Applause.) In concluding, Mr. Mackenzie said,—I hope and expect that before long the remaining colony of British North America, Newfoundland, may find a pleasant resting-place within the arms of the Confederation. I am quite sure that that will be best for Newfoundland, as well as for the several parts of Canada. When our transcontinental system of communication is fully established and the Dominion is fairly one continent, I have no doubt Newfoundland will gladly come and assist us to build up a glorious British empire, which, I believe, will be sufficiently powerful of itself not merely to be a child of Britain, but to be an ally, a brother in arms, a brother in peace, a part of a British confederation which shall exist wherever the sound of the British drum rolls around the globe. (Loud applause.)

Mr. PAUL referred to the decline of the sugar trade between this country and Canada, blamed recent legislation therefor, and asked what reason the Canadian Government had for imposing prohibitory tariffs on the sugar trade with Britain.

Mr. JOHN NEILL, jr., also drew attention to the fact that the trade in crushed sugar had greatly declined.

Mr. MACKENZIE said it was a mistake to suppose that anything like prohibitory rates had been imposed on British manufactured sugar. There had been no disturbance of the sugar duties. The disturbance of the trade arose from the same cause as disturbed the trade between Great Britain and France. The Government of the United States had followed the same course as the Government of France, and taxed their own people in order that other nations might get cheap sugar. He had no doubt that the United States sent sugar to Greenock. ("Yes.") They could easily imagine that people who were able to send sugar to Greenock, which was like sending coal to Newcastle, could as easily send it to Canada. There was no real remedy, unless they got the Governments of the United States and France to adopt the views advanced by those interested in this country. There was no more complicated thing could be discussed in political economy than the sugar duties. The British Government had laboured to get a common action agreed upon by the European powers, and the Government of Canada would be delighted to do the same thing for their country. (Applause.)

Mr. NEILL was delighted at Mr. Mackenzie's expression of opinion, and thought there was some ground for hoping that the United States Government would be brought to adopt more reasonable views in regard to the matter to which he had referred. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. MACKENZIE, in the course of some further remarks, said that Quebec somehow had always been looked upon by those engaged in the timber trade as a port of a temporary character. It was only recently that the place had been raised into the position of a great seaport—a great natural outlet, not merely for timber, but all kinds of merchandise. He hoped the atten-

tion Government had given to the timber interest would be for the mutual benefit of Greenock and Quebec. (Applause.)

After a vote of thanks to the Chairman for presiding and "three cheers for Mr. Mackenzie," the company separated.

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### PRESENTATION OF THE FREEDOM OF THE BOROUGH OF IRVINE.

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IRVINE, August 11.—Yesterday at noon, the Hon. Alexander Mackenzie, Prime Minister of Canada, who is at present on a visit to this country, was entertained by the Town Council of Irvine, when he was presented with the reedom of the burgh. The ceremony took place in the Town Hall, which was completely filled before the hour named for the presentation. The company comprised a number of ladies, the members of the Town Council, and Harbour Trust, the Magistrates of the Town, the Clergymen of all denominations, the Incorporated Trades, the Volunteer Officers, and most of the prominent residents.

Provost PATERSON occupied the chair, and was supported by the Canadian Premier; Ex-Provost Brown; Bailies Goudie, Wyllie, and Wright; Dean of Guild Henderson; Revd. J. Somerville, Parish Minister; and Messrs. Dickey, D. Gray, and John Yuille.

The CHAIRMAN, in a brief speech, expressed the pleasure they felt in meeting Mr. Mackenzie as their guest. Mr. Mackenzie had come among them to visit some old friends, and the Council had taken advantage of his visit to tender to him the freedom of the town, as a mark of their appreciation of his public services, as well as from a desire to honor Canada through her First Minister. Mr. Mackenzie had by his perseverance and ability raised himself to the position of Prime

Minister of the Dominion of Canada, the greatest of British Colonies, and he (the Provost) was sure he would be received here as he was elsewhere with great enthusiasm. (Applause.) The Town Council and Magistrates had unanimously agreed to confer this honor on Mr. Mackenzie. It was the highest honor they could bestow. He hoped Mr. Mackenzie would be long spared to promote schemes and measures in Canada that would perpetuate his name and hand it down to posterity. (Cheers.)

Mr. DICKIE, the Town Clerk, then read the resolution of the Council and the burgess ticket, and handed to Mr. Mackenzie the document, enclosed in a handsome case, with a silver plate on which the inscription was engraved.

Mr. MACKENZIE, on rising to respond, was very warmly received. He said he had accepted the invitation of the Council to be present for the purpose of receiving the freedom of the town with very great pleasure, for personal reasons, and also because it was an evidence of good feeling to Canada. Although not a native of Irvine, he had spent some pleasant days there long ago, and his recollections were more associated with persons than localities in this quarter. Some of his family connections were associated with Irvine, and some of his warmest personal friends were still here, after his absence of thirty-five years. During that long period many changes had taken place, and one who was a native of Irvine and stood in the nearest relationship to him had passed away; but her remaining friends and the place itself would always be regarded by him with the tenderest interest. (Applause.) Irvine also possessed much interest to Canadians, and to himself personally, as being the native place of a very distinguished Canadian statesman, Sir Alexander T. Galt —(cheers)— a gentleman who had long served Canada, and whom he had the honor of classing among his personal friends, though they had not always acted together politically. (Hear, hear.) Since

coming to Scotland, various public bodies and private gatherings had been good enough to show him much kindness similar to that received that day. He believed these demonstrations evinced the good will which existed between the mother-country and her colonies, of which Canada was in every respect the greatest, as nothing could be more pleasant than the manner in which the colonies were spoken of in these meetings. (Cheers.) One of the greatest pleasures a Canadian had in visiting the mother country was to know that he was still among his own kindred by birth and political connection. (Cheers.) The Briton who had removed to Canada had not forfeited his right to British citizenship—he had not given up his claim to be a sharer in the glories of the old land; he had merely gone abroad to strengthen the family connexion and enlarge the family possessions. (Applause.) The house and estate were enlarged, and the family increased, but the name was the same, and the great British roof-tree covered all. (Cheers.) Canadians and colonists generally, while not possessing many of the advantages enjoyed by the people remaining at home, had other more valuable privileges which more than compensated for what could not be obtained. They had a clear field in which to commence national life, free from many clogs, such as an Established Church, which was at home a fertile source of dispute, and in the estimation of many a real injury. They had the advantage of the history of the parent state in moulding the new institutions. In the colonies the people were apt to think that the march of improvement was more rapid than at home. A visit to this country would perhaps be unfavorable to such an impression. He had witnessed with the greatest interest the great improvements in harbors, railways, and shipping, and in the growth of cities and manufactories. During his visit to the Highlands, he was surprised to find the most remote and lonely glens penetrated by the telegraph wires. He contrasted the present

method of conveying tidings of joy or danger with that described so graphically by Scott—where every inhabitant was bound to carry the Fiery Cross at the top of his speed and when exhausted to give it to some clansman to speed onward to the next, until the whole country was roused. Were that wonderful instrumentality, the electric telegraph, not in existence in modern times, the British colonies would be able and willing to carry the Fiery Cross round the globe to warn all the members of the Empire of impending danger to the mother-country, and in such case the gathering of colonists would be no less unanimous and enthusiastic than was the gathering of the clans round their chieftains in former days. (Loud applause.) While speaking on this subject, he would remark that the days when serious danger might happen to the mother-country were fast drawing to a close. (Cheers.) The magnificent and powerful British settlements which were growing daily stronger with unexampled rapidity in every quarter of the globe, were even now a source of strength instead of weakness. (Cheers.) These colonies were gigantic limbs of the parent state through which pulsed the blood from the heart of the Empire. (Applause.) They were not, as some supposed, isolated fragments which had grown by chance, and had a precarious, uncertain existence. The enormous population which these colonies would very soon possess would be able in arms to set the world at defiance, and in peace would exercise a moral influence of the greatest importance to the well-being of humanity. (Cheers.) He knew there was a party in England that believed the future safety of Britain would lie in detaching the colonies, building walls round her cities and guarding her coasts with the navy. It was from no selfish motive, as a colonist, that he expressed his dissent from such a view. He firmly believed that the policy of abandoning the colonies and the shutting themselves up like the Dutch to live on their accumulated earnings would be the aban-

donment of a national prestige which was most beneficial to other nations, and as a nation committing suicide. (Cheers.) The colonies required nothing from Britain. They could maintain themselves, but they did want a complete understanding, not an accidental policy, as to the future. The possibility of future wars, and the difficulty of dispersing British forces all over the earth, no doubt actuated the mere shopkeeping politician, who feared the expense and subjected his larger political feeling to the pressure of money; but the colonies generally could attend to their own military work. (Cheers.) He believed also that with the growth of the colonies and commerce the probabilities of war would steadily decrease. (Cheers.) Having referred so much to colonial relations, perhaps he would not be considered as travelling beyond the boundary he should observe if he expressed his deep regret at the depopulation of the rural districts in Scotland. "A brave peasantry" were peculiarly "the country's pride" in Scotland. (Cheers.) He was pained to witness the vast changes that had taken place in some districts of the Highlands. Where he had known in his boyhood a busy population engaged in cultivating these little farms and tending their little flocks of sheep, only ruined tenements were now found, while the little crofts and holdings were turned into sheep farms and game preserves. Places which had given many a noble fellow to the British army could provide no more. The people were driven to the large cities or compelled to emigrate. He felt thankful that no such changes could take place in Canada, where every one almost was a proprietor or could become one. (Cheers.) Mr. Mackenzie then referred to the late improvements in educational matters in England, and even in Scotland, where improvements were not so much needed as in the south. He said no Scotchman could help feeling grateful to the wise statesmen who aided one of the greatest of Scotchmen, John Knox, in establishing the parochial schools which had done so much for the

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country, although modern educationists might, no doubt, improve on the system and the text books used. (Cheers.) He remembered reading in a book of travels in Scotland by Kohl, a German writer, one passage with reference to the Shorter Catechism. He said the most wonderful thing he had seen in Scotland was a complete system of divinity sold for a farthing. (Cheers.) Personally, he did not agree with all the theological views contained in that wonderful little book, but no one could doubt its great influence as well as its general completeness as a summary of truth. In Canada the common schools were entirely free to every child, and free also from any denominational bias, though the Bible was read and all the schools were opened and closed with prayer. Every neighbourhood was also supplied with a high school, where the higher branches of knowledge, including the classics to a certain point, were taught. From these high schools students could matriculate into the University. Mr. Mackenzie, after referring to the various improvements and changes he saw in Irvine, said he earnestly hoped that the prosperity of the town would continue. It was in all probability the last time he would see it, and this was the last public address he would make in Scotland. He hoped his visit would have some effect in drawing closer the ties which bound the people of Canada and the mother country together. He embraced this last opportunity of expressing his deep gratitude for all the kindness he had experienced from the day of his arrival. He should be able to carry back to his colleagues, his friends, and the people of Canada, the kind words which had been said of Canada wherever he had been. (Mr. Mackenzie was warmly applauded on resuming his seat.)

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[Mr. Mackenzie was also invited by the Town Clerk of Glasgow, on behalf of the Lord Provost, Magistrates, and Council, and other leading citizens, to luncheon in that city, but was compelled on account of his engagements to decline, as well as an invitation to meet the Chamber of Commerce of Manchester.]



ARTICLES ON THE PREMIER'S VISIT, FROM THE  
SCOTTISH PRESS.

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(From the *Dundee Advertiser*, July 14, 1875.)

Dundee has credit in her youngest burgess. In bestowing the freedom of the burgh on the Hon. Alexander Mackenzie, the Magistrates and Town Council have not only shown their appreciation of native worth, but in so honouring the Premier of the Dominion they reflect honour upon the city they represent. Those who saw and heard Mr. Mackenzie yesterday would have no difficulty in accounting for the success which has attended his career in Canada. He impresses you at once as a shrewd, sagacious, far-seeing man—one in whom there is no room for sham of any kind. In any country Mr. Mackenzie would have, doubtless, made his mark, but it is more particularly our Colonies which open up careers for such as he. Native vigour of character, sound judgment, and strong common sense are qualities which are stamped in his features, and become at once conspicuous in his utterance. One does not wonder that on his taking an active part in politics these qualities should have recommended him to his fellow-Colonists, or that his native ability should have brought him irresistibly to the front as the leader of one of the great political parties. It was the stand he took in condemning and exposing the tactics of the Macdonald Ministry in spending large sums of money for election purposes which first brought Mr. Mackenzie's name prominently before newspaper readers in this country. On that occasion Mr. Mackenzie made a manly stand in favour of purity of administration. The conduct of the Macdonald Ministry in freely spending money for election purposes in order to make sure of the return of a working majority, and their subsequent recommendation to grant the Pacific Railway contracts to an association of capitalists, at the head of whom was a gentleman who had considerably advanced the money, naturally roused a feeling of popular indignation. Mr. Mackenzie, as the leader of the Liberal party, was the exponent of that indignation, and in the beginning of November, 1873, Sir John Macdonald resigned office rather than risk a division on the vote of censure proposed by Mr. Mackenzie. In accordance with precedent Mr. Mackenzie succeeded to the Premiership, and since then Canada has not been disturbed with any specially engrossing political controversy.

The advent of Mr. Mackenzie and his party to power was somewhat unlooked for. In the early part of the year Sir John Macdonald could command a majority of from sixteen to thirty. This was after the elections referred to, and in ordinary course the Liberals might have remained a long time in the cold shade of Opposition had not the revelations in connection with the Pacific Railway scandal destroyed Sir John Macdonald's influence, and led many members to change sides. When Mr. Mackenzie took office a disposition was shown in some quarters to represent the party of which he is the chief as being inclined towards American institutions, with perhaps a tendency towards annexation. There has been nothing in their conduct to give countenance to the misrepresentation. A thorough belief in Democratic principles is not incompatible with adherence to a Constitutional Monarchy; and the emphatic declaration of Mr. Mackenzie as to the feelings of Canadians with respect to annexation should go a long way to dispel any lingering notion regarding the American leanings of the Liberal party in the Dominion. Even in the United States the party who were wont boastingly to declare that

No pent-up Utica contracts our powers,  
For the whole boundless continent is ours,

are now seldom heard to say that the Stars and Stripes will yet float on the north side of the St. Lawrence and the great lakes at the request of the Canadian people. In saying that it "has been decreed as inevitable by the people of Canada and the people of the British Empire that there shall be at least two systems of political government upon the Continent," Mr. Mackenzie, we believe, re-echoes the firm conviction of British subjects on both sides of the Atlantic. That Canada with its vast tracts of fertile land, its great natural resources, its immense metalliferous and mineral wealth, is destined to grow another, if not a greater Britain, is not to be dismissed as an idle dream. It has all the elements of vigorous growth in it, and when the Atlantic and Pacific seaboard are linked together, as they no doubt will be before long, the Dominion may be expected to go ahead at a pace equal if not greater than its Southern neighbour. As it progresses, and its wants increase, it may be expected to continue to develop those educational and other advantages which Mr. Mackenzie with just pride referred to yesterday. It may equally be trusted, unless this country adopt a repellant policy, to remain under the British flag. In the course of time differences will no doubt arise; but so long as Canada entrusts her destinies to shrewd, sagacious statesmen—men of the same stamp as the youngest burgher of Dundee—these differences are not likely to lead to an open rupture.

The party of which Mr. Mackenzie is the acknowledged leader are, as a rule, in favour of free trade. Some of them may possibly, however, be rather halting in their zeal. There is, as in other countries, a protectionist element in Canada, and under the temptation of reciprocity treaties it might develop into proportions which would prove a somewhat serious hindrance to trade. The duties imposed in Canada for revenue purposes are already considerable, and the attention of the party in power might well be directed towards reducing them so far as practicable. Mr. Mackenzie, it is clear from his utterances, is a thorough-going free trader. It is so far in Canada's favour that she has at the head of her Government a statesman whose views on this question are so matured and sound. A strict adherence to the principles of free trade is the best means of developing the resources of a country, and Canadian politicians would do well to allow themselves to be guided in this respect by the views of their enlightened Premier. Commerce has unquestionably its work to do as well as Christianity in the civilisation of the race, and if the Dominion of Canada is to share the glory of carrying our Anglo-Saxon civilisation over the globe—which Mr. Mackenzie considers to be the mission of the British people—her sons must be guided by those maxims which lead to the highest development of commercial intercourse. In enrolling Mr. Mackenzie among her citizens, Dundee recognises not only his personal worth, the honourable position he has attained, and the important services he has rendered—she holds out in a manner the right hand of fellowship and friendship to the largest and most important of the British Colonies. If it lead to the cultivation of freer and more substantial intercourse—commercial and other—between this part of Scotland and the Dominion of Canada, the gain will be mutual. Whether that be so or not, Dundee has done well in showing its appreciation of native worth, and in doing honour to one who enjoys the confidence of the Canadian people.

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(From the *Perth Advertiser*, July 18, 1875.)

To-day the Premier Statesman of Canada was presented with the freedom of this city. For reasons which need not be repeated, the return of Mr. Mackenzie to his native country is in strong and striking contrast to his departure from it. From the hour that he landed at Liverpool to the present his movements must have brought ineffable pleasure to himself. They have been conducted in an atmosphere of honour and

distinction. His position, as assigned to him in political London, was at once elevated and flattering. The Queen has smiled upon him, and acknowledged in him one of the leaders in her Empire; and Mr. Disraeli has been happy to praise his genius and acknowledge him as a brother statesman of the highest rank. In Scotland, his native country, the "illustrious stranger" has been received with something akin to effusion. His steps are being picked from among those who have crowded to do him honour. His progress to his native village is beset by the great men of the cities and towns lying in its wake. Metaphorically his path has been strewn with sweet and pretty flowers. He has walked on air. Noble men and gentlemen, county magnates and city dignitaries, have combined with one another in an effort to make his coming back to the old country, for a space, one of proud and memorable circumstance.

The motive for all this parade of semi-imperial adulation is twofold. It is to show, first, that our confidence in the loyalty and material value of Canada is unbounded; and secondly, that Scotland is glad of the opportunity thus afforded to honour a worthy son of her soil. In bestowing that honour, too, all classes of the community are unanimous. The people from whom he has sprung hail this Premier as one of themselves, as a living and breathing instance of what may be accomplished by a man's own unaided courage and adventure. And the aristocracy, the descendants of a hundred earls, are eager to welcome one who (to go back to feudal customs for a simile) has worked himself up from the lower end of the table, to the right hand of the Baron himself. History contains instances of individual ascent by laudable means, even in the rudest times, when, as a rule, men, like Richard the Third, had no friend to back their suit—

But the plain devil and dissembling looks.

But these instances are not numerous. Happily, however, times have changed, and although the competitors for the race of successful life are now more crowded than ever they were, yet we are glad to see that more men win by fair running than by foul. Had Mr. Mackenzie lived in the old feudal days, or later, when Scotch Jemmy reigned, or even later still, in the "good" old days when George the Third was king, he would doubtless have found opportunities for rising above the ruck in which he first beheld the light, and learned to feel that a large world and a mighty future lay beyond the little village of his birth. But we must confess his chances in the feudal age, or even in the days when James of Scotland was king, would have been considerably less than they have proved to be in the Victorian era. The Georgian age was itself not

altogether unlike that of "The Barons." It was essentially a "close" time for unaided ambition; the nobles were environed within a stockade of aristocratic exclusiveness, which was as impregnable almost as the granite walls of the Baltic well nigh proved to be. But the nobles have learned wisdom; loving the Empire themselves, they have come to admit the right of the lowest of its sons to love it also, and to applaud all who, in the language of the American poet, are—

Leaping higher, higher, higher,  
With a desperate desire,  
And a resolute endeavour,  
Now, now to sit, or never,  
By the side of the pale-faced moon.

To many a lad, ambitious of fame, dreaming day-dreams within the puny walls of his little village-home, building castles in the air, and peopling them with his own, himself the master of all—to many such lads the titled lords of the soil must seem as inaccessible in their state as the moon is in *hers*. But, as we have said, the flight may be made, and is made, slowly, laboriously, 'tis true, still it is made, and each arrival at the summit of our social Olympus is received with effusion by the stately dwellers in that world of "sweetness and light." And thus it is that the Scottish Barons have come out of their ancient or traditionary exclusiveness, and have given earnest and hearty welcome to the little Logierait lad, whilome mason of Canada, who for years struggled up the acclivities of the Dominion, outstripping competitors, and crying only

That one word—  
As if his soul in that one word he did outpour—

Excelsior, Excelsior ! So much for the motive which has brought together this proud array of commoners and peers, statesmen and provosts, the wise and learned, soldiers, churchmen, lawyers, and pompous bailies.

Our readers will peruse Mr. Mackenzie's speeches to-day with a feeling of admiration both for the man himself and the country of whose political life just now he is the head. People in what our Canadian correspondent, Mr. Somerville, in his letter to our columns to-day, calls his beloved and revered, combative, covenanting, preaching, predestinated, arguing, effectually called, catechised, song-singing, poetical, devout, bag-piping, truthful, old Scotland—people in the mother country are apt to look upon Canada with a depreciatory spirit simply, as Mr. Mackenzie remarked, and the Rev. Mr. Cowan more than hinted to-day—simply because we do not understand the country. Nay, there are men who go so far in their ignorance

as to say that the Dominion Parliament is the equivalent, not of the British House of Commons, but of an English or Scotch Town Council. The comparison is, however, the graceless outcome of ignorance. There may be rough talking in the Canadian Parliament, because many of the leaders of Canadian political thought are like Mr. Mackenzie, men who have risen from the ranks. But as our Toronto correspondent points out, the men are not all Mackenzies—not all masons and ploughmen:—"If any other stonemason or humble man of worth, but of moderate education, without the power of money, comes to Canada expecting to be Minister of Public Works and Premier in the Dominion Privy Council, he is likely to be disappointed. The abundant Canadian schools, classical colleges and universities are covering the country, and filling the cities with young men highly and expensively educated, and mostly inheriting a share of the family property which fathers—once poor emigrants—have amassed in trade or in agriculture." Time will soon come when the Canadian Legislature, indeed, will be the equal of the Home Parliament in point of intellectual and personal grace; when Canadian society will have been strained, as it were, by death, and the leaders, as well as the rank and file, will be men who have ceased in the practical sense to be hewers of wood and drawers of water. Doubtless there will be men shooting forth out of the obscurity of immigration, and making their way from the "four dollar a day" class, but these will be the exception of the future instead of the rule, as they have been in the past. Canada is growing with rapid strides, to us in this slow, peddling Britain, with breathless strides. Its society is now a great and brilliant fact, the equal of England in every mental accomplishment and personal grace. What it lacks is what all our colonies lack in common with the United States, namely, the softening colour which can come only of a long, long history, coupled to a constitution which is as sacred as Mr. Disraeli's "unwritten law of Parliament," and to institutions sanctified by the breath of centuries. In all else Canada is our equal, perhaps our superior. Mr. Mackenzie says as much, and, democrat though he be, he echoes the patrician sentiments of his Chief. English politics have become so languid, and in some ways so melancholy, men hope for so very little from politics, and have become so content if only there is no misfortune, that a Canadian Viceroy or Premier who tells them that his Dominion is occupied by a people who are "one of the most intelligent and happiest of the offshoots of the English race;" a people rapidly developing "into a proud and great nation;" a people with a social "atmosphere which seems impregnated with the exhilarating spirit of enterprise, contentment, and hope;" a people which feels that its destinies

are as great as its possessions, and that it is equal to deal with both, makes society, as the *Spectator* prettily puts it, raise its head with a glance of amused, but half-incredulous surprise. Well, the surprise is natural, but the thing that surprises is no illusion. There has been no rise in our recent day like the recent rise in Canada. The Dominion is an ally within the Empire, a protected State whose protector is but herself again, an actual portion of the whole body, yet with separate vitality, she enjoys a condition absolutely unique in history. She can grow in the middle of the world as the States grew in their isolation. British journalists understand that much, and, taking Mr. Mackenzie's hint, they will endeavour to familiarise themselves thoroughly with the important questions which give additional muscle and vigour to this healthy and vigorous offspring of the old mother country.

So all things considered—the rise of Canada, and the important part which she is destined to play in the future social history of the Empire, we can well understand why so much has been made of the Canadian Premier, quite apart from the interest we feel in him as a native of Perthshire. We have to-day done him honour, enrolled him among the illustrious worthies of our country, and it is an honour which it has pleased Mr. Mackenzie as much to receive as it has delighted Perth to give.

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(From the *Scotsman*, July 17, 1875.)

The speeches of Mr. Mackenzie, the head of the Canadian Ministry, have the right ring about them, exhibiting not only that hard-headedness and caution which are so freely imputed to Scotchmen, but likewise a dash of that sentiment or poetry which our neighbours are somewhat more slow in recognising as part of our national character. Canada would seem for the present to have put the right man in the right place, and it is natural that the man should magnify the place, and tell us, as he does with apparent truth, how good the disposition, how prosperous the condition, and how magnificent the prospects of the vast country over which he presides.

It is almost news, and exceedingly good news, to be told on such excellent authority that our Canadian brethren of different races and religions are at harmony with one another, contented with their political institutions, and almost unanimous in their attachment to the connection with the British Crown and people. It was very different not long ago, and the present happy condition of things has been arrived at through means which were resisted as certain to bring about the very opposite



results. Up till about 1838, the dealings of the mother-country with Canada, as with other colonies, had been to a large extent both unwise and unkind. The colonists had little or nothing to say in their own affairs; there had been, under the old Tory system, a series of Colonial Ministers incompetent both from their want of ability and knowledge and from the unsoundness and obsolescence of the principles of government on which they acted; and in many cases, and especially in the case of Canada, the real power had been intrusted to some little colonial faction or even family. The unsuccessful, and therefore unwise, rebellions which broke out in both the Upper and Lower Provinces in 1837, had an indirect success, inasmuch as they forced the attention of the public and public men in this country to Canadian affairs, and ultimately produced a remedy. The truth is, that we had for a good many years before been too much occupied with our own controversies to pay sufficient heed to what the colonists were saying or doing, and the hurry and excitement into which our public men were plunged in connection with the series of great changes initiated by the first Reform Bill, had prevented them turning their thoughts much away from things at home. Then came Lord Durham's Mission, and his once famous Report, the substance of which was, that "responsible government" should be established in Canada—in other words, that Canada should be governed under representative institutions. There was an outburst of ridicule and resistance by the Tory party at home; "responsible government" was not only laughed at as a chimera, but was denounced as the surest mode of bringing about an immediate separation of the colonies, and especially a junction of Canada with the United States. But the Melbourne Government firmly carried out the new policy; the colonial institutions were liberalised; old political offences were forgiven, even to the extent of admitting men who had been in arms during the Rebellion to high office under the Crown; and now Mr. Mackenzie tells us, and we have long been seeing, the result. Canada is not only united, prosperous, and contented, but feels herself a nation and is cherishing a national pride, whilst also more proud than ever before that she forms a part of the British Empire. Forty years ago, the class of Canadian politicians to which Mr. Mackenzie would seem to belong, looked very much askance on this country, and turned their eyes towards the United States for sympathy and friendship. "The sympathisers" was the name of the bodies of the United States citizens who came over the frontier in 1837 to aid the insurgents. Mark how differently sympathies tend now, and how different the tone of Canadian politicians. They not only speak of this country as politically, as well as other-



wise, the house of their friends, and of their political connection with us as a benefit and a pride to both, but they seem inclined to speak almost too strongly of the United States as a quarter from which they expect rather danger than help, but a danger against which they are resolved to guard. The change in the political management and institutions of Canada may be said to be an old story now; it is, however, one of those stories which ought not to be forgotten, but remembered on fitting occasions, and especially on occasions like this, not merely as something to be proud of in the past, but as conveying instruction and guidance for the future.

There is one matter regarding which the Canadians do not yet seem to have attained to clearness of view, and upon which even Mr. Mackenzie gives forth a somewhat uncertain sound. He says, both for himself and the people of Canada, that Free-trade is right both in principle and practice; but he adds, somewhat ominously, that "the necessity of obtaining a revenue compels us to impose a very considerable duty on goods entering into the country." What does not seem to be fully understood on the St. Lawrence is, that the imposition of duties upon goods entering into the country is, unless accompanied by a countervailing duty upon similar goods produced in the country, a mode not of raising taxes, but, on the contrary, of disabling taxpayers. No doubt "the considerable duty" which is levied upon imports goes into the colonial Treasury, but that duty is not only paid entirely by the colonists themselves, but is the cause of making them pay much more, of which not a half-penny is paid to the Government. The chief import-duties in Canada are levied on clothing, and a tax on clothing is the next most objectionable thing to a tax on food; but besides that, the duty raises the price not only of the clothing imported, but of the clothing produced, the increased price in the latter place going to some favoured interest, and not to the public Exchequer. There is a party in Canada desirous to promote the growth of colonial manufactures, and the mode they take is to impose such a duty on imported manufactures as, added to the natural price of the manufactures produced in the colony, will enable them to yield a profit. Every man in Canada is thus made to pay an enhanced price for his shirt and his coat, and of that enhanced price only a small part goes to enlarge the colonial revenue, the rest going to foster an employment which is not naturally profitable. The fact that employment is not naturally profitable in Canada is demonstrated by the fact that it cannot exist unless a penalty is laid upon the use of similar products coming into the ports—in other words, unless the law enables the colonial producer to exact a price in excess of the actual value. And the reason

why that employment is not as profitable in Canada as it is in Lancashire is simply that there are other employments in Canada which are more profitable and which absorb the available capital and labour. Mr. Mackenzie states the facts on this point very strongly. Canada has, he says, "enormous tracts of land and a comparatively sparse population;" in fact, there is no limit to the amount of agricultural employment—which, in that country, unlike this, leads on to competence and independence. What the Canadian tariff does is to tax this naturally prosperous industry in order artificially to grow a naturally unprosperous industry. The Canadians cry out for more labourers, and at the same time tax the labourers they have, in the hope, and the vain hope, too, of artificially increasing not the supply, but the demand for labour.

On three points, not of small importance, Mr. Mackenzie has spoken in a manner to show his candour as well as his good sense, and to correct some mistaken ideas existing among many of those whom he addressed. He admits that wages in Canada are really not much more, if at all, in excess of those now paid in this country—a fact which we lately sought to prove from a document designed rather to help the opposite theory, the Report of the Agent sent out to Canada by the English Agricultural Labourers' Association. He warns what we may call the democracy of this country that they are much mistaken in thinking that they will find in the United States, and he might perhaps have included Canada, an absence of those social distinctions which fret some of us at home, the differences created by wealth on the other side of the Atlantic being as great as and even more galling than those created here "by a long process of law, and by the exercise of the favours of sovereigns." But most of all, we thank Mr. Mackenzie for saying—"I never allude to the fact that I am or have been a working man as a reason why I should be rejected, or why I should be accepted." This is far removed from the "pride which apes humility," and amounts to a sharp rebuke to many of the agitators and to much of the cant among ourselves. In politics, as in other things, a man should be valued not according to his social rank, least of all should he be more highly estimated the lower his rank, but only according to his principles and his capacity to give them effect.

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(From the *Dundee News*, July 17, 1875.)

Coming from a man on whose veracity we can confidently rely, and who speaks with a weight and responsibility that cannot be ignored, the statements submitted to the people of

Dundee on Tuesday and Wednesday were very important. It will be reassuring to the majority of people in this country to hear the extraordinarily earnest tone of loyalty in which Mr. Mackenzie expresses himself. Another man might say more than he says on the subject of the Canadian connection with the Crown, and we would set it down as coming from the tongue of one who knows what is the polite thing to do; but Mr. Mackenzie speaks of the determination of the Canadians to keep up the connection with the Empire with an intensity and ingenuousness which force from his hearers the conviction that he is truly representing a large, and very likely the great, bulk of the feeling of the colony on this important matter. On the equally important economic question of free trade, Mr. Mackenzie is as emphatic, and as sound. Unlike the majority of the leaders of the Great Republic on the other side of the St. Lawrence, many of whom show in a too practical manner their belief in the theory of laying violent hold on all "counters of wealth" passing through their hands, Mr. Mackenzie and the members of his party have a vivid idea of the paradoxical saying, which a very elementary knowledge of political economy shows to be true, that "when the balance of trade seems to be most against you, it is most upon your side." Perhaps the necessity of securing a revenue may prevent the present Government from developing their free trade policy to its ultimate limits, but it is clear from the opinions of Mr. Mackenzie that there is at the head of the Canadian Government a staunch and intelligent representative of the Cobden school of politicians.

In other particulars the speeches of Mr. Mackenzie were important. They were so, because they brought vividly before us the wonderful power and vitality of the Anglo-Celtic race. If we may venture to say so, Mr. Mackenzie is himself perhaps one of the best representatives that could be selected of the inherent energy and vigour of that race; and his history illustrates in the best possible manner the powers and possibilities of the inhabitants of these islands. Whatever Mr. Mackenzie may say to the contrary, and although he does insinuate that the chances of men at home of obtaining positions of eminence are not much less than in the colonies, we venture to think, with all deference, that he looks at us, as is natural after such an absence and such success, with rose-coloured spectacles. Had he remained in Scotland, or even gone to England, we do not think that Mr. Mackenzie would to-day have been the Premier of Great Britain. The reason is not far to seek. We are an old country, with old ideas; and all our inherited prejudices and associations lead us to look upon the greatest prizes in our national life as reserved for a class at

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least above the third. But it is a sign of the native vigour of the race, that when Britons find themselves in one of our colonies, breathing the new and freer air, they can so readily divest themselves of those notions, which perhaps principally prevent them from advancing at home. There they look upon all prizes as within their reach, and do not fear to measure themselves with the very highest. Such a training, when properly managed, gives us men possessed at once of a quiet orderliness, and an absolute freedom of spirit such as can scarcely be acquired elsewhere. The Dominion of Canada seems,—if Mr. Mackenzie can be taken as a sample of the stuff she rears—and we think he can,—peculiarly capable of producing such a race as will combine the best elements of the Republicanism of the United States with the best and most stable parts of our own Monarchy. This was what we felt when listening to Mr. Mackenzie; and as he pictured the vastness of that country which England has begun to people; when he spoke of the navigable watercourses extending into the country for thousands of miles; of the coal and iron fields, covering an area greater than the British isles; of the splendid stretch of prairie and forest land, on which all the inhabitants of Europe could easily settle, no one could help thinking what a glorious theatre is here prepared for one of the proudest scenes that has ever been enacted in the world's drama. There the race which has reduced these wild islands into a fruitful territory, which has dug its way into the heart of the earth, has done the best part of the world's industry, and peopled so many parts of its surface—there the crowds who are now huddled together in our cities and who find in so many cases their energies cramped, will be sure yet to seek room to work; and the result will certainly be that the continent will be peopled by a race who will speedily subdue it, as they have conquered the morasses and forests of this country, perhaps under conditions which will realise to some extent the dream of the poet—

When wealth no more shall rest in mounded heaps,  
But smit with freer light shall slowly melt  
In many streams to fatten lower lands.

(From the *Perthshire Constitutional*, July 19, 1875.)

The honours paid by Dundee and Perth to Mr. Mackenzie, the Premier of Canada, have a higher value than is usually accorded to the common-place presentation of the freedom of a Scotch burgh to some more or less distinguished individual who is caught in passing, in the hope of extorting a speech

which may reflect some little imaginary radiance on the getters-up of the demonstration. In the ordinary case, the honour is more on the side of the givers than the recipient of civic honours. To be the youngest burghess of Dundee and Perth may carry with it no sense of elevation to a person who has, by innate good qualities, fought his way to the Premiership of the Dominion of Canada; and if that had been all that was intended to be demonstrated by the double ceremony, it would certainly have fallen far short of the purpose. Neither were the honours bestowed solely on the personal merits of Mr. Mackenzie. No one thought of saying with the mother of Brasidas, the Lacedemonian general, "Sparta has many a worthier son than he." He was, indeed, recognized as a worthy son of Perthshire, who, by dint of qualities which distinguish Scotsmen, had battled his way to a rare eminence, where his power for good was infinitely increased; but it was as a representative of our most flourishing colony,—and our oldest,—that Dundee and Perth held out the right hand of fellowship to him. The presentation of the freedom of the two burghs of his native land was as much a symbol of friendship and goodwill to Canada as a token of respect for the personal qualities of the Canadian Premier. Wherever the Scotch element is to be found in Canada, this unpurchased honour conferred on Mr. Mackenzie will be acknowledged with a thrill of gratitude, and will serve to bind together the Dominion and the mother-country more than ever. In another column, we give full reports of the proceedings at the presentation and banquet at Perth, and also of interesting proceedings at Dunkeld, and our readers will read with a glow of satisfaction what he has said in regard to the strong resolution of the Canadians to preserve the monarchical form of government, as the only form agreeable to their own political principles and feelings.

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(From the *Edinburgh Courant*.)

Such hospitality as was shown to the Canadian Premier at Dundee, and which will be cordially repeated in other Scotch burghs, strikes a note of fraternity destined to vibrate from the banks of the St. Lawrence to the antipodes. It is an act of which not only Mr. Mackenzie's brother Canadians will be proud, but which Scotch colonists in all quarters of the globe will accept as a compliment. The prospect of one day being themselves honoured with a kindred welcome to the land of their birth and the country of their pride, will stir the soul of men whose names, though a proverb in some distant territory

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of the Crown, are here hardly known beyond their native parish. There are Logieraits all over Scotland which can claim Mackenzies of their own—men who have gone forth from the old parish school to seek for fame at the ends of the earth; and to win new honours for their hardy race. The greatest success they can attain in the land of their adoption never slackens the current of the Scotch blood in their veins. Whatever they may become as colonists—whether daring explorers, or shepherd kings, or millionaire merchants, or prominent politicians—their hearts ever look backward to the brown heath and shaggy woods of boyish days. The *per-fervidum Scotorum* is infectious among their surroundings; it is invariably hereditary in their offspring. Descendants of Scotchmen may be met with on the Red River, or among the Blue Mountains, who, though they have never been within thousands of miles of the Grampians, have the Caledonian type ingrained in them, and their minds imbued with the patriotism of "Scotts wha ha'e." In entertaining a Scotchman like the Canadian Premier, the Scotch burghs do honour to a man whose career has reflected honour upon them, and they pay a tribute to Canada that will be deeply felt throughout the length and breadth of the Colonial Empire. Scores of crosses of the order of St. Michael and St. George could not express so emphatically to the Canadian people the brotherly interest that Scotland takes in their progress, and the value it sets upon their continued friendship.

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(*Dunkeld correspondence of the Dingwall [Ross-Shire] Journal.*)

Mr. Mackenzie arrived here from Perth—in which city he had been splendidly entertained the preceding evening—on Saturday at eleven o'clock, and at three o'clock was presented with an address of welcome and congratulation in the Town-hall, in the presence of a large assemblage. Indeed, the room was crowded to excess, and many could not get within seeing or hearing distance of the interesting ceremony. Banners were flying, evergreens were tastefully used, and a band of music played during the whole course of the presentation in the grounds of the Royal Hotel.

The gentleman who was the object of the demonstration, in replying to the speeches made on the occasion, spoke in a quiet, dignified, and sensible manner. He felt gratified at the friendly way in which Mr. Conacher spoke of him, and was peculiarly pleased to find his Dunkeld friends expressing so much kindness and good will towards him. He spoke, in fact, in that pleasant, judicious way, which one would expect from

a gentleman who owed, under Providence, so much to his own unaided efforts. He referred so pointedly and kindly to his friend Dr. Taylor, that the worthy doctor was constrained to get up and make one of his off-hand speeches—which, by the way, are by no means his worst—and he certainly put life and vigor into what he said, with that combination of earnestness, enthusiasm, and humor, which are so characteristic of all that he does. You ought to have heard the applause which greeted Mr. Mackenzie and Dr. Taylor's speeches. The cheering of the Perthshire men was very spirited, and showed that their hearts were in the matter. At the close of the proceedings, three cheers for the Queen, three cheers for Mr. Mackenzie, three cheers for Mrs. Mackenzie and Mr. Mackenzie's family, three cheers for Dr. Taylor, and a lot more of such "special" votes of thanks were given with enthusiasm—the proposers being situated at the end of the hall furthest from the platform.

Would your readers, who must include a fine sprinkling of the "Caberfeidh" clan, like to know what like Mr. Mackenzie is? He is about five feet eight inches in height, very slim of build, fair-haired, shaves nothing but the upper lip, has a fine forehead, and a good pair of blue eyes, which may manage to look into one very thoroughly, as much as to say, "I'll tell you what you are, sir." When speaking, Mr. Mackenzie is calm and deliberate, rather than fiery and vivacious, and he stands with his hands behind his back. He is in a more marked sense a self-made man than any other man now living.



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ADDRESSES OF WELCOME ON RETURNING  
TO OTTAWA.

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OTTAWA, September 1.—It is always a gratifying thing to pay a hearty tribute to the worth of a man, let him be either a political or a private individual, and yesterday afternoon men of all shades of political opinions turned out *en masse* to welcome back to the scene of his labours the Hon. Alexander Mackenzie, after his lengthened sojourn in the land of his fathers. During his trip, by the forcible arguments he adduced in the various speeches he delivered, he probably did more towards placing Canada in a favourable light before the Old Country people than all the Emigration Agents and Lecturers that have been sent home, and by placing it before the people he addressed, in a plain, straightforward way, one so peculiarly his own, he has paved the way for the importation of a most useful class of emigrants. This fact is one that has been made manifest, and *ergo*, all who have the interest of Canada at heart, sinking their political prejudices, joined yesterday, most heartily in welcoming the return of the Honourable the Premier. There has not been such a demonstration in Ottawa for many years past, and it is no exaggeration to say the procession was at least half a mile long, as it reached from the gate of the St. Lawrence and Ottawa Railroad Depot to the corner of Sussex and Rideau streets, and both thoroughfares were lined with persons anxious to catch a glimpse of the chief helmsman of the Canadian Ship of State. The train was about an hour late in arriving from Prescott, but from four o'clock the platform at the depot was thronged—a handsomely decorated enclosure, adorned with evergreens and flags, was erected for the reception of the distinguished gentleman, and in which



the addresses below appended were to be read and presented Over the entrance to the temporary apartment, was a scroll bearing the words, "Welcome Home" A space was kept clear by some of the members of the City Police Force under command of Chief Langrell and Sergeant O'Keefe and the constables did most efficient services in preserving order. The station yard was crowded with both public and private vehicles, containing several members of the Corporation and many leading citizens. The Dominion flags, with the British ensign, floated over the station, and there was a liberal display of bunting from all the public buildings in the city—the Parliament House, the Eastern and Western Blocks, the new Post Office, the Russell House, the *Times* office, the *Free Press* office, all contributed their share to the display, which was a most imposing one. Among those present were noticed Acting Mayor Waller, C. T. Bate, D. S. Eastwood, W. H. Walker, Thomas Coffey (the latter representing the Water Commissioners), W. C. Edwards, J. M. Currier, M.P., T. H. Kirby, W. Fingland, Jas. Angus, Dr. Sweetland, Ald. Bangs, Ald. J. P. Robertson, Ald. Rocque, Ald. Pratt, Ald. Bronson, Ald. Heney, Ald. O'Connor, J. T. Pennock, Lt.-Col. Bernard, R. Audy, Thos. Reynolds, (Managing Director of the St. Lawrence & Ottawa R. R. ;) J. W. Peachy, Philip Thompson, J. W. Russell, Horace Merrill, Lieut. Col. Macpherson, Dr. Grant, Malcolm Cameron, M.P., J. C. Jamieson, Jas. Pennock, the Hon. Mr. Huntington, the Hon. Mr. Blake, the Hon. Mr. Cartwright, Dr. St. Jean, M.P., D. J. O'Donohue, M.P.P., G. Hay, H. T. Bronson, W. Griffin, etc. On the arrival of the train, the advent of which was announced by the explosion of several fog signals, which had been placed on the rails, the Guards Band, which was stationed on the enclosure on the platform, as the Premier, accompanied by Mrs. Mackenzie, disembarked, struck up the inspiring strains of "Bonnie Dundee."

Dr. Sweetland escorted Mrs. Mackenzie to the dais, when

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she was presented with a bouquet of beautiful flowers. Acting Mayor Waller then read the following address, which was beautifully engrossed on vellum by Mr. Chas. Medlow, of Sparks-street :—

*To the Hon. Alexander Mackenzie, Premier of Canada.*

HONOURABLE SIR,—On behalf of the Corporation of the City of Ottawa, on your return from your visit to the land of your birth, we beg to tender you a hearty welcome.

The very cordial and flattering reception which was extended to you by all classes of people, during your absence, did honor, we are convinced, both to yourself personally and to your position as First Minister of the Government of the Dominion.

Your public addresses—delivered before some of the most intelligent of the citizens of the various places which you visited, and which were published broadcast throughout the whole of Great Britain and Ireland, giving from so distinguished and reliable a source, the fullest information as to the great extent, the almost infinite variety of resources, the unexampled prosperity, the probable future, brilliant in reliable promise, and the undoubted loyalty to the Empire, of this its most important colonial dependency—cannot but serve to enlighten all who heard and all who read them, more fully regarding us and our Dominion; to awaken in them a deeper interest in their fellow subjects on this side of the Atlantic, and to rivet more firmly the ties which now bind us to them, and which we trust will grow stronger with advancing years.

In this we are assured you have rendered signal service to the land of your adoption, a service for which we feel we may well tender you our best thanks.

We venture, sir, to express the hope that the relaxation of the past few weeks from severe official labours may have been of great benefit to you, and that both yourself and Mr. Mackenzie may be long spared to enjoy the honours which have been so deservedly accorded you.

Signed on behalf of the Corporation of Ottawa.

W. H. WALLER,  
Acting Mayor,  
E. H. BRONSON,  
F. McDUGALL,  
C. W. BANGS,  
F. X. GROULX,

Members of the Reception Committee.

On behalf of the citizens generally, Dr. Sweetland read the following :—

*To the Hon. Alexander Mackenzie, Premier of Canada.*

HONOURABLE AND RESPECTED SIR,—We, the inhabitants of Ottawa and surrounding district, desire on this, the occasion of the return of yourself and Mrs. Mackenzie from a visit to Great Britain, to congratulate you both on your safe arrival, and to express our pleasure at having you amongst us again.

We have carefully observed the gratifying attention you received in public places, and have with pleasure read the accounts of the addresses presented to and honours conferred upon you during your absence from us. We were especially pleased to note the manly dignity you maintained as a Canadian, both before the aristocracy and workmen of Britain, and the able manner in which you set forth the advantages of Canada, the stability

of its institutions, its unlimited resources, and its heartfelt loyalty to the Queen and Constitution; and are assured that in harmony with our Governor General your visit has been and will be productive of great and lasting benefits to Canada, in removing prejudices and improving its position and credit.

Trusting that you and your amiable wife may long be spared to enjoy the advantages of Canada and the respect of Canadians everywhere, we again most heartily bid you welcome home.

Signed on behalf of the citizens of the city of Ottawa.

JOHN SWEETLAND, M.D.,  
W. PENNOCK, Secretary.

Mr. MACKENZIE, in reply, said :—Mr. Mayor, Dr. Sweetland, ladies and gentlemen,—I am exceedingly gratified by the kind words you have addressed to me on my return from my native country, and I assure you the kindness the citizens of Ottawa have shown me to-day, irrespective of political parties, will never be forgotten. You have been pleased to approve of the course I pursued when obliged of necessity to speak in public during my visit to Great Britain. You have done me the honour to refer to the words I made use of upon such occasions, as those that became a Canadian. (Cheers.) I can only say that every Canadian who visits Great Britain, no matter whether he comes in contact with the peer or the peasant, must necessarily use the same language, and if he is at all a representative of his countrymen, must manifest that spirit of manly independence which characterises the whole of our people, and forms the groundwork of our political institutions. (Loud cheers.) I believed always, and I believe now more firmly than ever, that it is quite possible to preserve that spirit and those institutions, and at the same time maintain an attachment to the British Empire. (Cheers.) I have the utmost pleasure in testifying, too, from the expressions of public opinion I had the honour of witnessing, both in public and in private, during my visit, especially in the great centres of population, that if ever there was a party in Great Britain which regarded the continuance of that attachment with disfavour, it was numerically insignificant, and indeed no longer exists. The British people are beginning more fully to com-

prehend the spirit which animates the Canadian population and must necessarily animate the Canadian Administration. (Hear, hear.) I am greatly gratified, I assure you, that men of all political parties in the city of my residence have been pleased to express themselves as they have done, in regard to myself upon this occasion. An Administration having in charge the affairs of a country like Canada ought to command the respect and confidence of men of all parties—that is, as an Administration simply; although we of course do not expect that all our measures will receive the approbation of those politically opposed to us. For my own part, if I should again, as I probably will be, a member of Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition, while I hope I shall ever be faithful to the interests of my party, I am certain I shall never forget my duty to my country and my Queen, nor the fealty I owe to the British Empire. (Loud cheers.) I regret very much that I was unable, while on the other side of the Atlantic, to visit two great centres of population to which I was invited. I refer to Glasgow and Manchester, in either of which I should have had the opportunity of addressing larger audiences than I could elsewhere, on the affairs of Canada; but the sentiments I expressed in other places have, I am glad to think, been pretty well disseminated through the British press, and the objects which would have been gained by the visits I was compelled to decline were probably in this way in some measure attained. (Hear, hear.) I hope that in future I shall be able, as I have endeavoured heretofore, to administer the affairs of this country in a manner becoming a great people having connection with Great Britain, and forming a part of the great British Confederation. (Great cheering.) I shall not further trespass upon your attention just now, but permit me again to say that I feel very deeply the kindness you have been pleased to show me, as well as the kindly references to Mrs. Mackenzie contained in the addresses you have presented to me. I thank you again

from my whole heart, and I trust nothing will occur in the future which will give you cause to regret the opinion you have seen fit to express of me to-day.

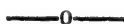
Three cheers were then heartily given for the Queen, three for the Governor-General, and three for Mr. and Mrs. Mackenzie.

The carriages then formed a line of procession, headed by the band, and proceeded along Sussex street, thence to Sparks street, turning up Bank street to the hon. gentleman's residence, where—

Mr. MACKENZIE, who appeared on the balcony, in front of his residence, in response to appeals from the large congregation who had escorted him home, said: I thank you again for the cordial reception accorded me, and the kindness shown me by the citizens of Ottawa. I hope, for the future, our relations may be of such a character as will be at once beneficial to the city, and honourable to myself and to my colleagues. It was a source of great pleasure to me to hear, as I think it was very appropriate, the band playing "Home, Sweet Home," for there is "no place like home," and during the short time of my residence in Ottawa I have learned to appreciate its people as well as the natural beauty of its scenery and its imposing situation. It was very gratifying to me while in England to hear expressed on all sides, by gentlemen who had visited this country, such flattering opinions of the beauty of the situation of this city, and of the grandeur of our Public Buildings as compared even with those in London. Seeing that we are able to rival them in this exterior feature, I hope it will be our constant endeavour always to rival them in the interior features of our political life—that nothing we do shall ever be calculated to bring the slightest stain or reproach upon the British name and character. (Cheers.) I am glad to think that in enunciating these sentiments I am but expressing the opinions of one and all, independent of political parties in this

city, and indeed in this whole country; and I am equally glad to know that in respect of the desire I have expressed for continuance of existing relations with the mother-country, I am but re-echoing the feelings entertained by the largest portion of the public of England, Scotland and Ireland. In conclusion, permit me to express my thanks to the Reception Committee, Dr. Sweetland, and my friend the Acting Mayor, for the way in which they have carried out the arrangements on behalf of the citizens. (Cheers.)

The vast assemblage, after giving three cheers for Her Majesty, and three hearty ones for Mr. and Mrs. Mackenzie, dispersed.



## EXPOSITION OF POLICY AT SARNIA.

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SARNIA, Oct. 11, 1875.—This afternoon the Hon. Alexander Mackenzie addressed a large and influential meeting of his constituents from all parts of the county of Lambton in the Court-house in this town. A triumphal arch was erected at the entrance, and the hall was tastefully draped with flags. The chair was taken soon after one o'clock by Mr. Daniel Mackenzie, President of the Reform Association, who was supported on one side by the Premier and Hon. Malcolm Cameron, M.P. for South Ontario, and on the other by the two local members for this county, Hon. T. B. Pardee, Commissioner of Crown Lands, and Mr. Peter Graham, M.P.P. Among those present were Messrs. George Stevenson, Mayor of Sarnia; J. Lawrie, Warden of Lambton; J. D. Eccles, ex-Warden; F. Davies, Rev. J. Thompson, Rev. Dr. Ellerby, Rev. Mr. Ross, Sarnia; Rev. Mr. Fessant, Point Edward; J. H. Fairbank, Petrolia; Robt. Rae, Reeve of Bosanquet; R. S. Gurd, *Sarnia Observer*; Jonas Cornell, S. D. Pace, U. S. Consul; Joshua Adams, W. B. Clark, T. W. Johnston, M.D., E. M. Proctor, Sheriff Flintoff, P. McGlashan, J. F. Lester, W. Stewart, J. P. Buck, County Attorney, and G. S. McLean, Sarnia; Jos. Featherstone, J. McRae, and G. Stewart, Moore; W. Ireland, Reeve of Sarnia; Jos. Lawrie, Deputy-Reeve of Sarnia; John McLean, Reeve of Watford; W. A. Wilson, Point Edward; Jas. Beatty, Thorold; Jno. D. Beatty, Sarnia; E. W. Lancy, J. B. Barrie, A. C. Clark, R. S. Chalmers, S. A. MacVicar, A. Leys, and Geo. Leys, Sarnia; Dr. McLaren, Point Edward; M. Sullivan and T. Gleeson, jr., Port Sarnia; Geo. Johnston, J. P. Moore, E. Watson, Sarnia Township; W. Lymington, J. P., Plympton; Alex. Davidson,

P. L. S., Arkona; G. N. Matheson, and J. Gowans, Sarnia; G. Blane, Canada Company, and M. Fleming, Sarnia. The following ladies occupied seats on the left of the platform:—Mrs. B. Clark and Miss Clark, Mrs. R. S. Gurd, Mrs. J. Thompson, Mrs. J. Adams, and Mrs. Capt. Symes.

The CHAIRMAN, without preface, introduced Mr. Mackenzie to the audience amid loud cheers.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said—Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen,—I am very glad again to have an opportunity of meeting with you. You are all aware that during the fourteen years I have represented you in Parliament I have always endeavoured, if possible—and it always was possible until very lately—to meet you frequently in various parts of the county for the purpose of explaining public affairs, and especially of representing my own course as your representative. I have not been able to do that for the last two years to any appreciable extent. You will remember that very nearly two years ago I sought a justification from you, when I appealed to you to return me again after having accepted office on the fall of the late Government. At that time you were pleased to convey to me the usual expression of confidence without any opponent being brought forward to dispute your will. Two months later, after I had brought on a general election, I again appealed to you and met with the same favourable response. These two years have been eventful years in the history of the Liberal party, and I hope also in the history of Canada, and I am here to-day to review briefly some of the events which have taken place during that period, and I hope to justify successfully to your minds the part I have felt bound to take in many public matters of the greatest importance. You are aware I have always considered that no man ought to hold a seat in Parliament unless able to justify his holding of that seat by his assertion of public principles to which he has given or to which he is to give effect by legislation. Whenever I cease to



occupy a position in which I can in this respect, as a legislator, be useful, I shall cease to ask the suffrages of the people of Lambton. After expressing his pride in representing Lambton, and pleasure at seeing present Mr. Cameron, who had preceded him in its representation, the two local members, and other exponents of public opinion in the county, and explaining that public affairs of pressing importance required his departure to-night, and consequently prevented him from addressing another meeting in the county as he had purposed, Mr. Macdonald proceeded as follows :—At the time I sought your approval of my public course at the general election in January, 1874, we had a great work to perform. The Liberal party had struggled for many years in Opposition, and you are aware I always took the ground that it was much better in the interest of public morals we should remain in Opposition than that we should assume Government with any compromise of principle. Acting on that principle, it became necessarily our duty when we assumed office to give effect to our own principles immediately, and that I have endeavoured to do so, I assert. I will proceed as rapidly as possible to pass over the events which occurred at that moment, and which subsequently took shape in legislation for the public. At the time when we assumed office many public matters of the greatest possible importance had been before the Government for some time. The previous Government had been charged with a grievous dereliction of duty, and with a manifest violation of high principle, politically speaking, and we were charged, as the Opposition Parliament in 1872 and 1873, with the exposure of that dereliction of duty, and with the task of seeking to obtain a public verdict of condemnation, first at the general election in 1872, and afterwards with the House that was elected hostile to some extent to our views as Liberals. If we failed at the general election in 1872 in impressing the public mind of some of the Provinces with our views, we suc-

ceeded in 1873 in impressing the mind of the Legislature with the views that I had announced at public meetings here and elsewhere in 1872. The Government that preceded us were charged with a very gross perversion of duty, and were convicted of it ; and, rather than face a hostile vote of the House of Commons, they resigned in November, 1873. Upon that resignation I may merely remark that it was a verdict of guilty against the previous Government of that of which they were accused, and we assumed office with public affairs very much deranged. The public mind and the electoral mind had been debauched by the extraordinary transaction of 1872, and we were charged to produce at once a higher state of political existence than that which had prevailed, and to purify the electoral body from the abuses which made it possible for any set of men to do that with which we charged our predecessors. I propose to-day to refer, very briefly, in the first place, to several public matters that had engaged the close attention of the public men of this country at the time we assumed office. We assumed office to find that the results of the Washington Treaty were gradually proving very disastrous to the country. We were realizing the fact that the country had been humiliated by another treaty with the people of the United States. We found the North-west Province in great disorder. Riel and his associates were still at large ; justice had not been vindicated, and these people had not been arrested or tried ; a war of races seemed imminent, and a war of creeds was based upon the opposition created among the people by the war of races to which I have alluded. It was our duty to endeavour to our best ability to reduce these elements of disorder as speedily as possible. It was our duty, as I believed, at the moment I assumed office to take such steps as would secure in the first place a pure and free Parliament, and you are aware that many, including some of my own political friends, thought I should have trusted to the

representatives who had been elected in 1872, a majority of whom were convinced that the late Government should resign, although there was no actual vote, and should not have appealed to the electoral body at all. After my accession to office I had, however, a painful remembrance of blunders that previous leaders of the Reform party had made in this respect, and I determined at once to give the electoral body an opportunity of returning a class of men whose opinions would be more consistent with the views always held by the Liberal party in previous years. Our first duty was then to obtain the election of a Reform Parliament. I had an opinion in November, 1873, after my assumption of office, that it would have been desirable if possible to have obtained a new Election Law before appealing to the electoral body, but being satisfied on reflection that it would be better to take the election with the election law which existed, we went to the polls, and succeeded as is known to every one of you, in having a large majority returned favourable to the Administration. One of our first steps after Parliament assembled in 1874 was to submit a complete Election Law, which was almost precisely similar to that which was introduced by Mr. Dorion in Quebec in 1864, and carried in the Lower House, though defeated in the non-representative body, that is, in the Legislative Council of the day. That Bill provides that all the elections should henceforth be held on the same day, excepting the remote constituencies, where distance and physical difficulties rendered it impossible that the elections should be held in a limited time to which they should be bound. In this way we felt bound also to give effect to the principle before we had the law, and you will remember that we ordered all the elections in 1874 to be held on the same day, except in those remote districts. Thus we gave effect to our own principles as far as possible before Parliament met, and most thoroughly after Parliament met, in the law which we initiated. We had also to face the difficulties which had

been encountered in the controverted elections. There was a law passed chiefly at the instigation and with the entire support of the Opposition to the previous Government, somewhat similar to that existing in the Province of Ontario. The law was, however, incomplete, and it was our duty to make that law as complete as possible, so that no member could hold a seat if he had been wrongfully elected to it. That law, you are aware, has been rigidly carried out—so rigidly, indeed, that it has become almost impossible for any one to hold a seat in Parliament if there has been the slightest violation of the election law in the most minute particular. It is claimed, indeed, that the law has been too rigid, and that the cases that have arisen under it have inflicted extreme hardships. There can be no doubt that it has inflicted great hardship in some cases, and that men have been unseated without any serious violation of the law; but, on the other hand, it is perhaps in the public interest that every case of the kind should be brought to light at once, so that at future elections there may be the most rigid exercise of carefulness in avoiding the remotest violation of the law. This will make it clearly impossible for any one after this to obtain a seat in Parliament by improper influences, and having the ballot system in operation, every man will be able, if he desires it, to vote without any one but himself knowing for whom he has voted, thus securing, as far as human ingenuity can secure it, the most perfect freedom in voting, consistent with the exercise of one's own conscientious conviction. Well, sir, we have been told that this law has operated against ourselves, and that more of our friends have suffered from its operation than of our political opponents. I do not myself admit or believe that this has been the case; but even if it were the case that our own friends had suffered more than our opponents, that would not deter me from advocating the enactment of any provisions that might be wanted to give the fullest possible effect to the principle I

have enunciated, as I believe it is in the public interest ultimately, whatever parties may be injured by it at the moment, that electoral purity should prevail, and that no improper influences should again be suffered to produce the extensive wholesale corruption which was witnessed with such pain at the general election of 1872. (Cheers.) We had to restore public confidence generally in our system of government. I recollect very well that at the time of the Pacific Scandal newspapers in the United States were referring to articles in our own papers about the electoral corruption that prevailed in their own country at their electoral contests, and there was rather a feeling of envious satisfaction expressed in the public journals of the United States that the Canadians were, to say the least, no better than their neighbours, and, some of them believed, a great deal worse, and that under a system of Monarchical government, such as we have, it was not only possible but probable that a greater extent of corruption might prevail than under a Republican system of government. We believe, as Canadians, that we have the freest and, I might say, the most democratic system of government that prevails in the world. We have our Ministers in Parliament responsible to the people, therein differing from the United States, where the Cabinet Ministers are heads of Departments, nominated by the President, and hold office without the will of the people. Altogether, if we had failed in the contest for the supremacy of political purity in 1873, we would have failed in the contention that our system of political government guarded more fully the public interest and the public morality than did the system in the United States. (Hear, hear.) Now I propose to pass over a few of the matters with which we had to deal. I stated a moment ago that at the time we came into office we were beginning to realize more fully than at any previous time the blunders which had been committed by the previous Government in regard to our neighbours in

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the United States. Long ago, when the treaty was about being negotiated, when Sir John A. Macdonald was appointed a Commissioner by Her Majesty to act with other four English Commissioners, I pointed out in Parliament, as I did in my public speeches, what ground I conceived ought to have been taken. My friend, Mr. Galt, with greater knowledge, I admit, of those with whom he had to deal, proposed to instruct the Canadian Commissioner by the Canadian Parliament as to the course he should take. I objected to that as binding the hands of the Canadian Commissioner in a matter in which he ought to be left free, as I had no doubt that any Canadian statesman going to Washington would see that the interests of his own country and the public honour of his own community would be sufficiently protected. We found that the result of that treaty was that while the English Commissioners agreed, and perhaps rightly, to some extent to reimburse the United States citizens who lost by the depredations of the Alabama let loose from the English harbours, they disregarded the appeals of the Canadian people to have the Fenian claims paid by the United States. In one case we had the doubtful escape of vessels from English ports preying upon United States commerce; in the other case, a regular army, with infantry, cavalry, and artillery, organized in United States territory, sent across our boarder in broad day-light to murder our people and to pillage our territory; and yet the Commissioners allowed these claims to be set aside, and paid the United States people for the destruction of property by the escaped vessels. I believed then, I believe now, and I shall always believe, that when a great and powerful people respect themselves, they can easily compel their neighbours to respect them also; and when a community like ours, a portion of the British Empire, is humiliated by the disregard of the just claims of Canada, then we at once occupy nationally an inferior position, and subject ourselves to further humiliation of the same kind. (Cheers.)

I make these remarks because I have to touch upon our relations with the United States farther on. We found in the interpretation of that treaty very serious difficulty in regard to other matters. You know that we have at the present moment the fishery clauses of that treaty under consideration, and that negotiations are pending for carrying out some of its provisions. I shall not, therefore, discuss that point further than to remark that it appears impossible under any of the provisions of that treaty to avoid interpretations which appear to be prejudicial to Canadian and British interests. I pointed out to you a few moments ago that we were not merely suffering at that time from diplomatic blunders, but that we were also suffering from other blunders that had been made with British Columbia, especially the condition in the terms of Union that this country—that is, the older Provinces—should build 2,700 miles of railway, one-half of it at least through the most impassable wilderness you conceive of, within ten years. I shall speak in detail of this in a future part of my speech, where I shall describe the present position of that road; I now refer to the diplomatic blunder committed in undertaking solemn engagements that the entire resources of the Empire could not possibly implement; and when I say that ever since I assumed office we have had 350 men engaged in British Columbia in surveying, with as many mules and horses, with trains of provisions, and herds of cattle following them, carrying all that is necessary to sustain life, and that up to this moment we have not been able to locate the line throughout that Province, you will see how unlikely it was that that road, with all the power of man, and all the money of Europe, could have been completed in 1881. (Hear, hear.) Yet this is the agreement adopted by the previous Government. The seeds of discord were sown in that Province, and it was all the more remarkable because the people never asked for such an extravagant piece of folly as the Government of Canada assented to.

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All they asked was that a survey of the road should be undertaken within three years, and that after that there should be an expenditure of not more than a million dollars annually upon it. That was all they asked in their terms, and even these terms could have been considerably modified, but the Government of Canada, with a fatuity—with a folly which now seems to me more incomprehensible than ever, the more I know of the difficulties of the work, undertook to have the entire route from Lake Nipissing to the Pacific Ocean, and, after reaching that, to Victoria on the Island, completed by 1881. This imposed upon us a serious difficulty in that Province, and the task, not only in endeavouring in some way to keep faith with the engagements the nation had entered into, but of reconciling the people of that Province as far as it is possible to do so with a very serious modification of the terms. We found that in the next Province between British Columbia and ourselves a state of irritation had been allowed to grow up on account of the events that succeeded the insurrection in that country. We found, although it was not known at that time, that negotiations had actually taken place between members of the Government and the chief instigator of the revolt and his friends, which resulted in procuring a seat for Sir George Cartier after he was discarded from Montreal, and in the Government of Canada actually having to pay \$3,000 to Mr. Riel and his associates for this forbearance of theirs in not coming forward to oppose Sir George Cartier. We found one section of the people there bitterly opposed to any punishment of those who had taken part in the disgraceful scenes that were enacted in the country, and on the other hand a very large portion of the population who were impressed with the belief that the acts complained of were the legitimate acts of a body of insurgents acting as the *de facto* governors of the country. There was much, no doubt, to be said for that view, and when we came to find out that after the murder of Scott, and the



events that succeeded, the leaders of that insurrectionary government were in actual communication with the leaders of the Government in Canada, had received payments of money from them, and had been treated as if they had not committed an offence, it became quite impossible to deal with that subject in any other way than that in which we did deal with it, which was simply to require a trial or vindication of the law, or a proclamation of outlawry to those who did not come under the operation of the law, and then extend such consideration to the circumstances as they required, and exhibit that leniency and mercy which they were undoubtedly entitled to after being recognized as legitimately governing the country and exercising all the powers incident to the government of a free country. I have made these remarks because I am quite aware that some of my constituents objected to the course the Government pursued in regard to Riel as being too lenient. Others again in other Provinces objected equally to the course we pursued as too severe. This was taking the extreme view from both points; some from the West assuming that he was simply a vulgar common murderer, entitled only to a murderer's fate, while the others assumed that the act of which he was accused was the legitimate result of an armed revolt, and that the public interests committed to his care at the time required the public and military execution of this man. The circumstances were of extreme difficulty, and its history develops one of the most remarkable instances of incapacity to be found in the history of the Conservative Ministry. After creating the most serious difficulty in that country that could be conceived, all their organs and public men have been endeavouring to embarrass the Government and unsettle this question. I believe, however, that we were upheld by public opinion through the country, and that the settlement we effected in both these cases will commend itself to the attention, the consideration, and the

approval of all who have the interest of the country at heart. I do not object to a fair criticism. Our measures may not have been the best ; they may not even have been wise ; but those who created the difficulties were bound in common honesty and fairness to devote themselves to the settlement of the questions, and prepare a substitute for the measures we proposed instead of meeting us with a blind opposition to the policy they were unable themselves to replace. (Cheers.) Some may say, " You have often remarked yourself that it is not the business of an Opposition to initiate a policy." That is quite true, and I do not expect an Opposition to initiate a policy for a Government ; but here was a subject upon which an Opposition had a policy—upon which we when in Opposition had a policy—and they were bound to assist the Government of the day in quelling any disturbance which existed in any part of the Dominion to the utmost extent that their wisdom and legislative independence as members not responsible as Ministers could suggest to them. (Hear, hear.) Now, sir, there are two independent points of view from which I desire to discuss the policy of the Government. In the first place, I will take what I may call our foreign relations. We are simply a dependency of Great Britain, and the only country with which we have any possible foreign relations of an intimate nature is the United States. The United States Government have a peculiar policy of their own in regard to this country. We have a border of thousands of miles alongside theirs. The same boundary extends so far that it is impossible that any policy adopted by the United States Government can do otherwise than affect us either prejudicially or favourably. The consequence is, that many international difficulties may spring up, and it has been the privilege of the Canadian Government, by Imperial invitation, to make our communications direct through the British Minister at Washington, in relation to minor matters. It has been always

the policy of the English Government in questions between Canada and the United States to have them decided by English diplomatists either sent to the United States or acting in London. It is the policy of this Government that these questions shall be dealt with by Canadian statesmen who understand their business and know the people of the United States. (Cheers.) And our policy, I conceive, is to be carried out, as a matter of course through the British Government, but purely according to Canadian ideas of public policy. One of our early struggles in this country—Mr. Cameron took much more share in it than I did, because he was long prominent before the public before I had any share in public affairs—was to let Canadian affairs be managed by Canadians, and not to have a Colonial Office or a Colonial Secretary undertaking to dictate through an irresponsible Council in Canada what laws should be enacted or what policy should be adopted. That is all gained, and so far as the management of our own internal affairs is concerned, there is nothing left in dispute. I am not to be understood as saying there is anything in dispute at this moment in regard to the other important branch of the Canadian service, because I have represented in the proper quarter, since I have been in office, the views of the Government, and on one or two occasions, when we had business to transact at Washington, the Imperial Government nominated the person named by the Canadian Government, first, the Hon. Geo. Brown, in negotiating the treaty last year at Washington; and secondly, Sir Alexander T. Galt, who is going as the Commissioner in the fisheries matter. I have no idea that any British statesman will think after this of interfering in these matter so as to procure treaties with the United States or any other power we are dealing with, when a treaty is to be made purely in Canadian interests. I have no idea that Imperial statesmen will seek for a moment to interpose any objection to these treaties being considered purely from a Canadian standpoint,

and the responsibility of doing it will be technically with the Imperial Government, but with the Canadian Government will rest the responsibility to the people of Canada, and the management of such affairs through Imperial officers. I have sufficiently indicated the views of policy that we hold in relation to this matter. Sir Alexander Galt, who is a very distinguished public man, belonging to the Conservative party, in a recent manifesto, I suppose I may call it, refers to the policy of the country in this respect, and he hopes, or I should rather say advocates, that for the future all legislation and all treaty obligations shall be entered into by the Canadian Government from a purely Canadian standpoint. Well, that is precisely the policy of this Administration—while maintaining the closest possible relations with Britain, to remember that we are practically, so far as our relations and business with the United States are concerned, acting for ourselves, that it does not concern any other portion of the British public, and that we believe that representations made to the British Government in a matter of that kind will always produce what I desire and what it is our policy to produce, a feeling on their part corresponding to ours and reciprocating the views we have adopted. And I can scarcely conceive how it will be possible to carry on the Government of this country in any other way. We have long ago passed the bounds of an ordinary Colony of Great Britain; we have assumed the proportions of a nation; we have for the first time in British history a federation of a large number of important Provinces; we have a continent to govern, and the far-seeing statesman must look many years in the future for that policy which is absolutely essential in maintaining the independence of our own people and the relations with Great Britain, which we all hope, trust, and believe will never be disturbed by any serious quarrel between the Government of this country and that of Great Britain. It has been said that in order to avoid difficulties such as I have

alluded to it is desirable to have a complete Confederation of the whole British Empire. I am myself quite convinced that the federal system is the most convenient one under certain circumstances, and most of us in public life in 1864 were convinced that whilst a legislative union of the Provinces would be in many respects more beneficial, and would concentrate the powers of Government more fully, it was impossible to meet the local circumstances of some of the Provinces without having a federal system. We have that now in operation, and I have therefore no possible objection to the extension of the federal system to all the other Colonies, and to the Mother Country if I believed it were practicable. But I do not think it is practicable, or that it would result to our advantage or benefit, or that we could gain very much from its adoption, while, quite possibly, we might lose a good deal. I believe, however, that the people of Canada are willing to assume their full share of the responsibilities imposed upon them as an integral portion of the British Empire—(cheers)—and the public spirit manifested by Canada on all occasions when the peace of the Empire was threatened and disturbed in their own neighbourhood, was such as to manifest to the most careless observer or prejudiced antagonist in Great Britain that no part of the British Empire was more devoted to Imperial interest than Canada at the present moment. (Cheers.) Our policy will therefore be, in a few words, for the future to do our own work, but to be the foremost, and I hope the strongest, colonial ally that Great Britain can possibly have. That position will be always strengthened by committing to our own hand everything that relates to Canadian interests. Now I propose to review as briefly as possible some matters that are deeply involved in the policy of the Government on domestic questions. You are aware that there has been a great disturbance of trade during the last two years and a half. We all know that for a period of many years there has been

unexampled prosperity in Canada, that our farmers have prospered tolerably well, that our towns have grown, that manufactories have sprung up in all directions, and given employment to a very large number of people who have come from other countries; that at the present moment the manufactories are depressed, and that there is an outcry on the part of many of the manufacturers for a system of protection, which simply means that if the system as an abstract principle is adopted, some other portion of the community will pay for protecting the particular manufacturers against all comers from the outside. There are two principles of action in relation to trade which are to be considered and discussed. The one is absolute free trade, the other absolute protection. You are aware from former political speeches that I have always assumed that in this country neither of these principles is possibly applicable to our circumstances, and as I stated in my speech in 1874, the question is practically removed from the sphere of political discussion, because no party that I am aware of, not even the most extreme protectionist, has adopted the idea that we are to lose all our revenue for the purpose of preventing any one coming in here to sell his wares, as that would result in a system of direct taxation. Every man, woman and child of you pay from four to five dollars a year by indirect taxation. If that system is abolished, you must pay that sum into the treasury, to ensure the existence of a revenue for the public service. I have assumed, as a matter of public policy—and not one public man in Parliament has attacked that policy—what Sir Francis Hincks characterized as “incidental protection,” a stupid phrase at best, meaning a revenue raised from the imposition of duties on articles imported into the country, but also manufactured in the country. We found that we derived a revenue sufficient for the purposes of the country for some years from an import duty on certain goods of 15 per cent. Every dollar's worth of those goods coming into the

country paid fifteen cents to the Government as revenue; so every manufacturer who made the goods in the country had the advantage of fifteen per cent. in his favour. I stated in my speech in 1874 that when we found the revenue of the country would not be met by the imposition of this duty, it would become necessary to impose more, and that it was impossible, if my view of the public obligations which had to be met was correct, that the fifteen per cent. duty should continue to suffice. The result of our experience was that within a year we found it necessary to increase the duty on imports to 17½ per cent., and that is the duty at present in existence. We have therefore given an incidental protection to the extent of 2½ more than had been imposed by the previous Administration. This might be a sufficient answer to those who have been accusing me of having it in view to inaugurate a free trade policy—a policy which I say frankly I would inaugurate at once if the circumstances of the country would admit, and if the position of our manufacturers would admit of it, because I believe that a free interchange of thought, information, and commodities is the true means of enriching a country or making a people great, while the system of protection as it exists in the United States is altogether evil. I pointed out in 1874 that while the wages of mechanics in the United States had been raised sixty per cent. since 1861, the price of the commodities necessary for their support had risen ninety-two per cent., showing no less than thirty-two per cent. against their system of protection. There is another question with regard to the trade stagnation at this moment. During the war that prevailed in the United States and the inflation of the money market, an enormous amount of trade was done of a kind that was not productive, and these goods were so much dearer than those manufactured in Canada that the Canadians had not to compete with any manufacturers from the United States in their markets, and were able to send a very large portion of

their goods to the United States, and the farmers of the country were able during the last two years of the Reciprocity Treaty to sell to the people of the United States no less than thirteen millions of dollars worth of agricultural produce and stock. This really enriched this country for many years, and a great deal of the prosperity which prevailed from 1864 to last year was owing to the enormous influx of money and the export of Canadian goods to the United States during that period. From the beginning of 1873 it was quite evident that the United States manufacturers had, to a great extent, regained their lost position. In 1874, they were able to export great quantities of cotton goods to this country, and pay our duties. They were actually enabled to export cotton goods to the English cotton markets, which are supposed to rule the world. During the last few months they have been able to export refined sugar to the heart of the refining portion of Great Britain, London and the Clyde, and between them and the French they have almost succeeded in driving the British refiners out of the market. It was almost impossible that Canada could escape a considerable amount of suffering by this cause. The complaint of Canadian manufacturers has been that this has made what is called a sacrifice market for their goods, and no doubt that has been productive of great provocation to our manufacturers, and injury to the trade of Canada. We have never, however, suffered the United States manufacturers to introduce their goods into this market at the valuation at which they were willing to sell them. In the articles of sewing machines we found they were introducing and selling them under these circumstances at a price sometimes not more than one half, and sometimes not half what they had been selling them for two or three years before, but we did not allow the importation at the price at which they were willing to sell, but imposed upon them the current price they were selling for readily in their own country, so that they were not



allowed to compete unequally with our own manufactures. I believe there has been an over-production of goods in this country as well as in the United States, and that to that is due the stagnation which prevails in the manufacturing districts now. Protection as a principle will never prevent a stagnation in trade or a reduction in prices, because in the United States, the most thoroughly protected manufacturing country in the world, the manufacturers have not been able to hold their own, and their manufacturers have for the last year been in the greatest distress of all. Your manufacturers have suffered undoubtedly, partly from over production in this country, and partly from stagnation in the United States, and United States manufacturers are sending their goods to sell to us far below their real value. The Government having adopted the policy which we always held in Opposition, that the revenue of the country is to be raised by the imposition of import duties, and heavy duties as far as possible on whiskey and spirits distilled in this country. We cannot depart at present from that principle. If we find we require, and can collect, a higher revenue by imposing a duty of more than 17½ per cent, it will be for the Government to consider the wisdom of doing so, but there is no difference of opinion between my political opponents and myself and the Government on this very important matter, and no difference of opinion has ever been expressed in Parliament on this subject. A friend of mine in speaking to me on this subject once said, "the only people I know of who need protection to some extent are the farmers, and we cannot give them any." Some people in Parliament have held that it is possible to protect the farmer and raise the price of wheat by imposing a duty on foreign wheat, and they actually believe with the member for Centre Wellington (Mr. Orton), who says, that "if we impose a duty of five cents on wheat coming from the United States it will increase the price of your wheat five cents also." There never

was a greater fallacy than to hold that, because if we produce more wheat than we consume, it would only prevent any United States wheat being carried through Canada or milled in Canada for transportation to the Old World. But the only article which it would be possible to protect in Canada was corn, as we do not consume as much of it as we produce. The argument is used in order to obtain some sympathy from that large class of the country which forms the real public opinion of Canada, the farming community, who are the backbone of the country—(cheers)—without whom a country could not possibly exist, and without whose prosperity the country itself cannot enjoy any prosperity as a whole. (Cheers.) Now the manufacturer of woollen goods, for instance, has a protection of 17½ per cent. against the foreign manufacturer of woollen goods, but remember that the manufacturer of woollen goods is allowed to import wool free of duty into this country. You sell a great deal of your wool to the manufacturers in the United States, and are met by a heavy duty upon that wool going in there, to protect their wool markets; but we have no duty on wool coming into this country, and the manufacturers of woollen goods import an enormous amount of wool from Australia and South America, and some from Spain and other countries. So our tanners import an enormous quantity of Spanish hides to make into leather in this country, but no one thinks of imposing a duty on these articles for the protection of farmers. There is the pretence that a protection on grain would do you a great deal of good, while it would do you a positive and actual injury, because it would not raise the price of your grain one cent, while it would destroy the trade of the country to a great extent in injuring the canals and milling, and in many other ways. Now I have to deal with another matter which is perhaps of the greatest possible importance at the present time in relation to the expenditures of the country. You are aware, as

Minister of Public Works, I have in my departmental capacity to control everything relating to the Canadian Pacific Railway, and it is affirmed by some public men at present that that railway policy of the Government had diverged from that which was announced at the general election in 1874. Now, my policy as announced then was this: That it was impossible, in the first place, to carry out the bargain made by the late Government with British Columbia; that it was a physical impossibility, and would be great ruin to the country to attempt to do it. It is quite true there was an obligation there to do it that made the obligation to which I referred, but it was equally true we had incurred a previous obligation to pay the public creditor \$120,000,000 as our National Debt, and we could not allow any obligations to interfere with that obligation to the public creditor, upon which the credit of the country must depend. The Government was bound to consider, in the first place, what modification of the policy of the late Government to build the road in ten years could be obtained with the consent of British Columbia, and with a determination to adhere rigidly to what we have placed solemnly in the Act of Parliament, that no policy that we should adopt would be allowed to increase the rate of taxation beyond that then existing. (Cheers.) The first feature of our policy was, "We will arrange with British Columbia if possible. They are entitled to every consideration we can give them on account of this bargain, but no matter what the policy may be, it must be based on the fact that this Government is determined not to increase the taxation of the people for that purpose." (Cheers.) And that we placed in our Act of Parliament last year, and that principle we have acted upon in our dealings with the people of Columbia. I know that while the Conservative organs in Ontario and the Dominion are endeavouring systematically to ferment a feeling against the Government in the Province of Columbia, and while every local politician in

Columbia deems it his duty to denounce the Mackenzie Government, the organs here are endeavouring to excite the public feeling in two ways. First, by saying that the Government have behaved scandalously to British Columbia, and in the next place by saying that the Government ought to be defeated because of their expenditure on the Pacific Railway. (Cheers and laughter.) I do not grudge my Conservative friends their argument. People in distress must resort to any point—(hear, hear)—and as they are in great distress for want of a policy, they must be allowed to exhibit in their own peculiar way. (Cheers and laughter.) I am sure if they do not affect the public by it, it will not much affect my views, opinions, or position. (Hear, hear) We sat down to consider what we could do for the people of British Columbia. I wrote them friendly letters as head of the Government, pointing out to them the impossibility of carrying out this promise, no matter how willing we were and how rich we might be, but we were willing and poor, and pointing out also that it was their interest to come to a reasonable conclusion on this matter. I offered, through Mr. Edgar, to expend a million and a half a year after the surveys were completed in British Columbia, and to build a railway from Esquimalt to Nanaimo on Vancouver Island. Recollect the late Government bound themselves by an Order in Council—it does not bind us, fortunately it is not the law of the land—and they set down their opinion there that the terminus of the road should be on Vancouver Island at Esquimalt, and by that means they bound the country to construct 260 miles of railroad that were not necessary to reach the Pacific Ocean. Our policy was to build as little railway as possible, consistent with the terms, which were simply to reach the ocean. We can reach it at the head of Bute Inlet, where they proposed to reach it, but they proposed to go down the side of the Inlet to the Straits 60 or 70 miles, across the Straits where the bridging alone would cost \$11,000,000, and then

down on the Island 160 or 170 miles, and yet Mr. Campbell and Mr. Aikins, two members of the late Government, actually voted in the Senate against my proposal to build 65 miles in order to pacify the people of British Columbia. They had engaged themselves to build 250 miles that were utterly useless, and to make this a part of the Pacific Railway to be run by the Government in perpetuity, and they voted against my proposal to build 65 miles in order to satisfy the people. That is the species of patriotism which we are to expect from these gentlemen, and which I suppose will commend itself to every one in this room, no matter of what political views. We failed, as you know, to satisfy the Columbians with our proposal through Mr. Edgar, and they appealed to the Imperial Government to help them in forcing us to fulfil the terms to the letter. The Conservative organs did everything in their power from Dan to Beersheba, the small and the great, to make it impossible for the country generally or for Columbia to agree to even the modified terms of Mr. Edgar. Lord Carnarvon appealed to us or offered to us to arbitrate in the matter between us. We declined to accept any arbitration, but agreed to allow him to say whether the efforts we had made, the offers we had made, and the propositions we were willing to entertain were or were not reasonable, and such as should be accepted. He said he thought they were reasonable, but he advised, for the sake of peace, and in order to obtain a settlement, that we should go a little further—in short, that instead of spending a million and a half a year, we should spend two millions, that we should finish the road by 1890, and should build the Nanaimo and Esquimalt road. Well, rather than forego a settlement, we agreed to these terms proposed by Lord Carnarvon, and in pursuance of that policy we submitted the Bill I have referred to, to build the road from Esquimalt to Nanaimo. That Bill was defeated in the Senate by the votes of the gentlemen who had previously voted the other proposition I have referred to. It was defeated,

at all events, and that imposes on the Government now the duty of considering what can be done in connection with this particular part of Lord Carnarvon's recommendation in order to satisfy the people of that Province, and I hope we shall be able to make such a proposition to them as will command the support of the reasonable men in that Province, and secure a settlement of this matter which will be permanent. (Hear, hear.) I may say that we declined the limitation of terms to 1890, except from Lake Superior westward, and that we hope to accomplish that in time without increasing the rate of taxation. If, however, we are unable to accomplish that without increasing the rate of taxation, we will only go as far as keeping within this other obligation will enable us to do. I may say that at the present moment the position of the Pacific Railway matter is this: We believe it to be desirable to obtain as speedy an entrance as possible into the North-West Territories, as from all the information we have in our hands we believe it is capable of supporting an enormous population. We believe it is almost impossible for a population to be thrown in there without means of access to the outer world. Above all things, we believe in having a highway in our own territory as soon as possible, and on that principle we have settled it. We are letting out, with the approval of Parliament, contracts to connect Lake Superior with Rainy Lake and Lake of the Woods, and westward with the Red River. These contracts are in process of completion, and I am quite sure that before the end of next season we will have a connection, at a cheaper rates than railways were ever before, not less than 150 miles between Lake Superior and the Red River, and we soon hope to be able to bridge over the distance in such a way as to avoid the humiliation of having to send our people and our merchandise through the United States. (Cheers.) You have observed the repeated accusations that the policy of the Government in the North-West

railway matter was undertaken in the interest and at the instigation of some parties in the United States. We were building a branch from the main line near Winnipeg to Pombina, and this it was said was done to carry all the Canadian traffic through the United States to benefit the United States lines. Grosser accusations were insinuated in the public press, and I have invited them, as I do now, to state these in plain terms, and they will soon find their position in a court of law. What will be thought of an accusation about building this road for the benefit of the United States people, when it was one of the obligations in the Allan contract that this branch should be constructed and should be finished by the 31st December, 1874? (Hear, hear.) They not only undertook it, but they bound the contractor to do it within a year from the time they went out of office.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON—And they were quite right for once.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE—Certainly they were, because that is the only means of getting speedy access into that country. I may state that part of the steel rails were bought last season in England, and delivered by the contractor in Montreal for an average of about \$53. We had them carried to Duluth and Thunder Bay for \$5 per ton from Montreal, and from Duluth westward, we were obliged to pay \$15 per ton, to reach our own territory on the Red River. We have got a sufficient number of rails into that territory in this way to lay at least 50 or 60 miles of the road from Red River eastward next year, and after all, by the economical action of the Government in this matter, we land the rails at Winnipeg, and down at Lake Winnipeg, 20 miles below the town, nearly \$10 a ton cheaper than the late Government paid for new rails delivered in New Brunswick. (Hear, hear.) Now I have no doubt that the policy which I indicated as that of the Government on a former occasion, and which I now reiterate, will be one acceptable to the great mass of taxpayers in this Province, who have to bear

the great burden of taxation in connection with these public works. (Hear.) We have enjoyed many advantages here; many of our sons are going to the North-West and many of our people finding homes there for the future, and we hope thousands and millions of people from the old land will go to that country and settle there permanently. I think, therefore, it is our interest and our duty to open up that country as speedily as possible for the advantage of the surplus population from our own parts or coming into the country, but it would be the height of madness to imperil our credit in the English market and increase the taxation of this country, and make it dear for the emigrant to come to, or the workman to live in. (Hear, hear.) We believe, however, that we shall be able to accomplish the connection of our western with our eastern waters by 1890, and we have acquired an immense amount of knowledge of British Columbia by the long course of surveys which have been carried on in order to find a feasible route for this railroad. To show how little we knew of the country, I may mention that one of Mr. Sandford Fleming's first maps showed the track of the railway with a short cut from Tête Jaune Cache to the Fraser River towards Bute Inlet, supposed at the time to be quite practicable, but we found a mountain in the way 9,400 feet above the level of the sea, and glaciers on the top. (Laughter.) I have always resisted any attempt made to force us to adopt a line until we had that line brought fairly under survey, and were able to define exactly the grades we could have, the distances to traverse, and its capacity as a commercial as well as a political road. To that determination we shall adhere, and not a mile will be let until our surveyors are also to point out and show by evidence what they are able to accomplish, and that they have chosen the best route. What was the result of the policy adopted respecting the Inter-colonial Railway, on the North Shore route, which I opposed



from first to last? The road now completed, 86 miles from Rivière du Loup, for six months cost us \$48,000 and earned only \$18,000. From that east to Moncton we have to open 300 miles more, either late this fall or early next year, and on that part of the road there is less population, and less possibility of the road being remunerative or paying half the expenditure it requires. It would be an act of consummate folly for the Government to make such a blunder again, and therefore it is a part of our policy to have the whole road properly surveyed before letting a mile of it, and to have it placed so as to give the best commercial advantages, as well as to fulfil the political necessities imposed upon us. (Hear, hear.) I may say that I have examined with a great deal of curiosity the public speeches delivered in British Columbia upon his subject, and I regret exceedingly the tone that prevails with most of the public men of that Province, and the ideas they appear to have of the duties and obligations imposed upon the people who are to pay the money; but we must only pursue a wise, judicious, and consistent course, and trust to a reasonable appreciation of our efforts by the bulk of the people who are to derive almost the entire benefit of this road, and I trust, when the road is finally completed, it will be one that will conduce largely to the public interest of Canada, to the interests of the Empire, and to the transmission of a portion of the Asiatic trade across our own territory to takeshipping again in our own waters for the Old Land. That this will be the case I have no doubt. I pointed out a moment ago that a great portion of the interest attaching to any Government is in connection with its public works, especially so in a new country like this, where we are undertaking enormous public works, hoping they may be ultimately of some advantage. You are aware that the lines of railway owned by the Government in the Lower Provinces have not done anything like paying their expenses as yet. We hope by wise economy, however, to effect a large

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saving in that, and the expenditure this last year for running the roads in those Provinces will probably be something like \$300,000 less than the year before we came into office. (Cheers.) We hope to make such further improvements as to give further accommodation on these lines of railway, and also not seriously affect the public interest. We have derived a revenue from our canals approaching to half a million of dollars every year, but the expenses of management have swallowed up most of this. The Welland Canal would pay a small interest on the amount invested, but the other canals—the St. Lawrence, the Ottawa, and others—would not nearly meet their working expenses. Still, with the enlargement now going on, we hope to carry such a volume of trade, that we may not only benefit the carrying trade and the milling trade of our own country, but may be able to transport produce from and to the Western States through our own waters. With this object in view, we have been endeavouring, as fast as possible, to get these great works completed, which will enable you to have a vessel brought from the ocean 270 feet long by 44 feet beam, and drawing 14 feet of water. (Cheers.) When completed, I have no doubt these works will produce a revenue to some extent giving a little interest on the investment, and in the meantime they are affording employment to a large number of our people. I desire to say a few words in reference to a treaty for which I was responsible which did not succeed. You are aware that last year I invited Mr. Brown to proceed as a British Commissioner to Washington to consider if it were possible to obtain a renewal of the old Reciprocity Treaty. The answer of the United States Government was so far favourable that he was formally appointed a commissioner with Sir Edward Thornton, with powers to treat, and a treaty was ultimately agreed upon between the United States Government and the British Commissioners, practically renewing the treaty of 1854, but increasing the number of articles, more or less

of an agricultural nature, very largely, and also proposing to include a large number of manufactured articles. When the draft treaty was published there was an outcry by some of our journals, in the interest of the Opposition, against the introduction of manufactured articles, and a large number of the manufacturers themselves also exclaimed against this as ruinous to their interests. I have only to say that in 1874, when it was known we were to have a new tariff, we had interviews with many of the manufacturers. I had as many as forty of them in my room at once, and I addressed them, "Do you mean you are not able to compete on equal terms with the manufacturers of the United States? Are your workmen not as good? Is the price of living not as cheap? Is that the ground you take?" They said, "We don't take that ground. What we say is: Give us the United States market, and we want no protection. We will be able to undersell them, because we can manufacture cheaper than they can." One of them said this. I said, "Do you say so, Mr. Smith; you, Mr. Jones; you Mr. Robinson?" and so went round the whole room, and of the scores of manufacturers who were with me having an interview, there was only one, Mr. Eddy, of Ottawa, who makes pails and matches, who said he could not compete with the United States. We endeavoured to have reciprocity in such articles as would suit the manufacturing capacity of our people. We succeeded in getting that, but the United States Government were afraid to take a test vote in the Senate apparently, and it was resolved in the Senate that it was not desirable to have the treaty confirmed at present, and therefore it became a dead letter. It shows, however, that there is an advance of opinion in the United States on proper views of trade, and that fewer people there are determined to build up a Chinese wall to exclude every one but their own people, and that they begin to see that it is possible that they could live cheaper and buy cheaper if they

admitted other people to their markets. We have such men as Mr. David Wells, long Commissioner of the Inland Revenue in the United States, taking the strongest ground in their own interest in favour of a relaxation of the exclusive laws which prevail in the United States at the present moment. There are two or three other matters on which I desire to say a word or two. I have not at any time taken the ground that a Government should boast particularly of anything they may have done. We are the servants of the people. We are responsible to Parliament. We have a policy to carry out, and in common honesty we are bound to carry it out to the best of our judgment. We have had two sessions of Parliament since the present Administration assumed office, and I venture to say these two sessions will compare favourably with any sessions ever held in Canada with regard to the expedition of public business and the number of important measures which have passed through the House. We have up to this time promised nothing to the people that we have not literally carried into effect. Not one of the measures foreshadowed in the Queen's Speech has been left to rust or die out. They have all received practical effect by legislation, and are now the law of the land. Seeing the impulse given to the postal system by previous reductions, the late Postmaster-General proposed some further extensions, and we carried through a new postal law which removes the tax upon newspapers to a very nominal figure. I daresay the newspaper publishers had some reason to complain of this, because although we removed the tax upon newspaper postage to the extent of 75 per cent, it left so small a sum to be added to the price of the paper, that publishers complained that they could not increase the price to get the postage from the reader. That is a matter which will be righted gradually, for newspapers must be treated as a commercial commodity like anything else. You pay so much for it, and if it becomes worth more by the publisher paying

more, or paying the postage, it will naturally have to be paid for by those who purchase the article, in the same way as in the case of the refiner of oil paying the duty instead of the consumer paying it at the store, that mode being found more convenient. We believe that the provision by which newspapers can now be carried for such a small sum is a great convenience to the people. We accomplished another improvement. You can mail a letter for any part of the United States—Texas, New Mexico, or California—without any U. S. postage being charged, and so in regard to the correspondence which you receive from the United States, no charge is made by us. The United States Government are bound by this convention to carry all our mail matter through their territory, and we are bound to carry theirs. We carry their mail from Detroit to the Bridge without any charge, and they carry our mail from Detroit to California to the boats for Vancouver Island, and also that to Winnipeg by way of Pembina without any charge. It is entirely reciprocal, and is equally beneficial to both. The ocean postage is reduced to five cents by either our own or the United States steamers. The postal charges are thus reduced to the lowest possible figure almost for which letters can be carried. So great is the increasing intelligence of the people, and the increasing correspondence taking place under the impulses thus given, that we have no doubt that in a few years, when the outer districts get filled up, the postage paid will cover the expenses. The Insolvency Act you all understand. I was not, as a matter of policy, in favour of having an Insolvency Act constantly in operation. The commercial men of the country were, however, of a different opinion, and having decided upon having an Insolvency Law as one of the statutes not limited by time, the Government had to set to work to have it settled in the best way, and I am bound to say here, as I said in the House, that we received every possible assistance from the

hon. leader of the Opposition and his friends in perfecting this measure and the Supreme Court Act, carrying out in that way the policy I endeavoured to enforce, of supporting every measure no matter by whom introduced if it were in the interest of the country, and giving assistance to the Government when my opponents controlled it in perfecting such measures. You are aware that the Supreme Court Act has also been put in operation, and the judges already chosen and gazetted for the high office created by that Act, Chief Justice Richards being the Chief Justice, and the five other judges being selected from the most able men in the other Provinces. I am glad to say that the appointments have given entire satisfaction in all the Provinces. This important measure was not initiated by us, for the late Government had it in their programme for two sessions, but it was left for us to carry out. We have now a Court which will save much money to litigants, especially in Lower Canada, where appeals to England are very frequent and very expensive. From Ontario, I think there were only two or three in the last two years, while in Lower Canada there were something like 30. This imposed an enormous burden on those who referred to England, and it is to be hoped that the new Court, under the able administration of Chief Justice Richards, will be abundantly satisfactory to all litigants in obtaining what they have hitherto incurred so much expense in obtaining—justice, or if not always justice, at all events law. (Laughter.) We had another measure to prepare looking to what I hope is the near future, I mean the establishment of a Government in the North-West Territories, which extend from the boundaries of British Columbia eastward for 900 miles, with a width from the 49th parallel as far north as you like to go, and a good deal further than most people would care to go. (Laughter.) Bands of marauders had been invading our territories, pillaging the Indians and murdering them in cold

blood. At Cypress Hills, near the boundary, a horde of ruffians from the United States murdered in cold blood in one night thirty Indians, pursuing helpless women and children, cutting off their heads, and tossing their bodies about the plains. They were introducing enormous quantities of liquor to debase the inhabitants and ruin them, and it became necessary to have a stable Government and a strong force to uphold the majesty of the law, That law has been passed, providing not in the way that Manitoba was first established under a sort of Canadian Imperialism, but by committing to the people of the Territory, the duty of governing themselves as far as it is possible to do so. A Governor will be appointed by this Act, who will have a Council selected by the inhabitants. Whenever any neighbourhood reaches a certain population, it will be entitled to elect a member to this Council. The other members will be the stipendiary magistrates, who will act practically as county judges, and possibly an Indian Commissioner. When the territory becomes filled up the Bill provides for an extension of this system by the election of representatives by the people. In the meantime we had to despatch a force of three hundred mounted men to capture the violators of the law, to provide for the exclusion of all illegitimate trade, and to provide that there should be no further introduction into that country of any kind of intoxicating liquors whatever. (Cheers.) We have succeeded in making at least one teetotal Province in the Confederation. (Cheers.) Our Commissioner on the frontier, Col. McLeod, a very able officer, having about a third of the force under his command, only about a month after he got there, seized one quantity of 60 barrels, and another of 40 barrels, knocked in the heads and spilt all the liquor. Some of the traders were fined \$500, and some had six months' imprisonment, and this had such a salutary effect upon the rest of the roving population that for some months past we

have scarcely had an instance of marauders entering the territory. Some leading merchants of Benton called at my office a short time ago to thank the Canadian Government for having at last established law and order in that territory on both sides of the line. They said they could manage their own thieves and scoundrels so long as they were kept out of the Canadian territory. This force causes a great expenditure undoubtedly, but the extent of the territory is immense, it is our own country, and its resources will be enormous in the future. We have protected the inhabitants from the thieves who stole in one year 40,000 buffalo skins from the Indians and sold them across the border, the principal payments being made in the bad whiskey introduced. Trade is legalized, and thousands of dollars of revenue have been collected, since we have taken these measures, and when we have officers at Edmonton and Fort Pelly, and where Col. McLeod is, we hope soon to have that country as well and peaceably governed and life and property as secure as in any portion of this country, and to receive the congratulations of Englishmen and citizens of the United States upon our complete success. There is one matter of a personal nature about which I desire to say a word. I am well known as the representative of the oil district in Parliament, and I am glad to say that in the oil district I have some of the very warmest political and personal friends any man ever had, and while they would like, perhaps, that something more could be done to benefit that interest, they are satisfied that I have always done what I could. But a direct charge was insinuated against me some time last year in the *Mail* newspaper that I had connived at and was a party to the Prince Oil Swindle, as it is called now; had some interest in it, and failed to do my duty in short. The charges were somewhat vague, but extremely insinuating. I immediately brought the matter before the House, and stated that my only connection with it was to send a telegram



and a letter to Sir John Rose, asking him to warn English capitalists against considering this a legitimate enterprise. The answer I thought was conclusive, but it appears not. I will relate an incident which occurred while I was in England. I was invited one evening by a Conservative member of the House of Commons, Sir John Elliott, one of the members for Durham, with whom I had some communication on business matters, to a dinner at his house, where he was kind enough to bring about a dozen members of the English House of Commons to meet me. After dinner, he said to me at the table, "Well, Mr. Mackenzie, I owe you the saving of £20,000." I asked, "How is that?" He said, "I had formed so good an opinion of the Prince oil well project that I had determined and agreed to take that amount of stock in it, but your telegram to Sir John Rose saved me from doing it, because he assured me it would not be sent if it had not been correct." That was evidence that in England, at least among the capitalists, who were to suffer by the operation, they understand perfectly who it was that saved a number of them from investing their means in this transaction. (Cheers.) I dislike having to refer to any of these personal recriminations. I am quite aware that in discussing political matters newspapers cannot always be expected to be as close and exact in their language as could be desired. I am quite willing to allow a reasonable license, but whenever a direct charge is made or placed in such a form that it requires to be attended to I shall attend to it; and while I do not for one moment suppose or believe that any one of my constituents, whether Conservative or Reformer, would dream for a moment that I had the slightest improper interest in these matters, I thought it due to them and to the public to deal with this particular thing. I am under many obligations to the people of the county of Lambton. They chose me fourteen years ago to serve them in Parliament, at a time when I not only had no desire

for the position, but wished not to accept it. They have continued me in it against a very powerful opposition, and that has enabled me to take the higher position which I have. It will be the ambition of my life in the future, as it has been hitherto, to endeavour to conduct the affairs of the country, now they are in my own hands, in such a way that my constituents in Lambton will not need to feel ashamed of their representative. (Loud cheers.) I do not pretend at all to be infallible more than other people. It is quite possible, quite likely, that in my public career, in public discussions, I may have taken a wrong course. I only claim that the course I took was always honestly taken, and if it has not always resulted to the benefit of the country that may be a mistake, but cannot be charged as a fault. (Cheers.) I have only to say further that I think it is my duty as a Minister of the Crown, holding the first position in Canada, to endeavour in every possible way to exalt the position of Canada in the eyes of the world, and especially to hold the first place, as we do now, as a British Colony, and in every way that is possible to maintain the honour of the Crown and the honour of our public men and the glory of our Parliamentary system. (Cheers.) During my absence recently in Europe I had the pleasure of visiting on several occasions the English House of Commons, and also of listening to the debates in the French Assembly at Versailles, and I was glad to form the opinion, which I did without difficulty, that the speaking capacity and the ordinary management of business in the Canadian House of Commons is certainly not inferior to the English House of Commons, and I think much superior to the French. (Cheers.) I believe, therefore, that our Parliamentary system has been a great success; that our House of Commons and our Senate—I speak for the House of Commons particularly, knowing it best—form one of the very first deliberative assemblies in the world for the business capacity and fair speaking talent, and

I am glad to know that the educational institutions of Canada are of such a nature and have such extent and capacity that there is no probability that their power to act on a Parliamentary body will ever be decreased, but rather may we expect that the continuous prosperity of our system will produce larger and more powerful minds to operate in favour of the public interests for all the years we may see in our future as a part of the great British public. (Cheers.) He concluded by thanking them for having gathered at such short notice, regretting the necessity which compelled him to leave to-night, stating his intention to afford those who had opposed him the same measure of justice as those who had supported him, and by expressing the hope that the Administration of which he was the head might have the pleasure of governing the country according to the well understood wishes of the people, and that they might succeed in accomplishing all the work that might be reasonably demanded of a Reform Administration. (The hon. gentleman resumed his seat amid hearty cheers.)

Hon. M. CAMERON made a few remarks, in which he thoroughly endorsed the policy of the Government, with the exception of their expenditure of five millions on a telegraph line through Canadian territory.

Mr. MACKENZIE said the amount was only one million.

Mr. CAMERON admitted his error, but thought we might as well have used the American lines. He explained that he had voted against the expulsion of Riel in 1874 simply because the evidence of his guilt was not then before the House.

Hon. T. B. PARDEE briefly addressed the meeting, stating that the Ontario Government had obtained a large majority in their favour at the last general election, and expressing a hope that the Ontario Government in settling the back country between the Ottawa River and the Georgian Bay, and the Dominion Government in settling the great North-West, might be equally successful.

Mr. ECCLES, of Warwick, moved the following resolution :—  
 “ That having heard from the Hon. A. Mackenzie, Premier of the Dominion, a full and satisfactory statement on public affairs, we hereby express our confidence in the Government of which he is the acknowledged head, and our acquiescence in their policy ; and further, we take this opportunity of thanking the Premier for the opportunity afforded us of listening to his clear, straightforward statements.”

The motion was seconded by Mr. Rae, of Bosanquet, and carried unanimously.

Mr. MACKENZIE, in replying, alluded to the telegraph line to which Mr. Cameron had referred as follows :—It is to be built along the line of the railway, and a great portion of the work done on that is done really as part of railway construction, which it would cost us a great deal more to do in the way of railway expenditure. In addition to this it has become of great importance to us to have a telegraph system into the heart of the continent. We cannot conduct our survey in the North-West unless we follow up base lines from the east, but with a telegraph system the surveyors are able to ascertain the correct time and their geographical position, latitude, and longitude. Then a short time ago I had to send a special messenger to the Indians close to the Rocky Mountains. That cost the Government \$1,500. With a telegraph line we could have done it without any expense at all. Now, if we want a party of surveyors at the foot of the Rocky Mountains, we have to fit out an expedition as extensive as if we wanted to cross the desert of Sahara. We have been paying the Western Union Co. \$4,000 a year for the privilege of sending messages over their line and paying for them. The other day I ceased paying that amount, and all our messages were stopped in consequence. I do not wish to be at the mercy of any United States Telegraph Company. (Cheers.)

A vote of thanks was then passed to the Chairman, and after three cheers for the Queen, the meeting dispersed.

## TOUR IN THE EASTERN PROVINCES.

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### BANQUET IN SAINT JOHN, N.B.

Late in October, Mr. Mackenzie made his long-promised trip over the Intercolonial Railway, to see for himself the features of this great undertaking, as well as to inspect other Dominion works in the Eastern Provinces. It was intended to be purely a business visit, and was made a very hurried one; nevertheless, on its becoming known that the Premier was on his way to the east, he was pressed to remain to meet the people at various points on his journey.

On reaching the Carleton Station, on the 29th October, he was waited upon by a committee of the citizens of Saint John, who accompanied him to that city, and on his arrival, he was driven to the Victoria Hotel. Here he was met by many more of the principal citizens, who cordially welcomed him to Saint John.

At eight o'clock, nearly two hundred guests assembled in the Victoria Hotel parlor to meet the Premier. Many of them had the honor of an introduction by Mayor Smith. At 8.20 the guests marched to the dining room to the music of the 62nd Band Band, and sat down to a magnificent banquet. Mayor Smith presided. At its right were Hon. Alex. Mackenzie, Premier of Canada; Hon. J. G. Blaine, ex-Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States; Hon. W. P. Howland, ex-Governor of Ontario; Hon. T. W. Anglin, Speaker of the House of Commons; C. J. Brydges, Esq. On his left were Hon. A. J. Smith, Minister of Marine and Fisheries; Gen. D. B. Warner, U.S. Consul; Hon. Eugene Hale, Member of the U.S. Congress; Hon. A. E. Botsford, Senator; Hon. W.

Wedderburn, Speaker of the House of Assembly of New Brunswick; and Hon. John Young, Chairman of the Baie Verte Canal Commission. At the feet of the respective tables were seated—Jno. McMillan, Esq., Dr. Bayard, Sheriff Harding, J. W. Nicholson, Esq., and John Magee, Esq.

The following other gentlemen were present :

R. Shives, D. E. Dunham, W. M. Smith, J. Wilson, J. E. Whittaker, W. Quinton, Luke Stewart, W. H. Sinnott, Oliver Stone, C. A. Robertson, J. I. Fellows, H. F. Perley, John McMillan, Adam Young, Alfred Mills, B. L. Peters, C. Lee, J. N. Thornton, W. Fleming, G. F. Smith, W. Jack, H. Jack, J. Tucker, C. W. Weldon, R. C. Scovil, T. Gilbert, D. D. Robertson, G. E. Snider, Dr. Bayard, Dr. Botsford, W. Elder, Dr. Travers, Dr. Harding, T. W. Daniel, A. Allen, G. L. Everett, G. M. Steves, Joseph Sline, Frank Carr, of East Express, Boston; Mathews Stead, C. W. Wright, James Harris, J. J. Sayre, George Carvell, John Hall, Geo. F. Harding, Jas. Wilson, Alex. Duff, Dr. Chas. Inches, F. Braun, (Sec. of Public Works,) W. Buckingham (Secretary to Premier), A. P. Rolph, J. A. Harding, Sheriff, W. J. Kerr, S. B. Appleby, M. P., C. Burpee, M. P.; Wm. Kerr, W. S. Thorne, F. Everett, John M. Taylor, W. Stephenson, R. C. Thorne, Ed. Everitt, John Gaylor, E. Frost, Gorham Stevens, Robert Robertson, Jas. Barbour, J. H. Harding, W. S. Gregory, E. W. Brown, Wm. E. Hale, H. D. Troop, Robert A. Gregory, D. McLellan, W. A. Moore, H. A. Austin, M. P.; W. F. Harrison, D. O. L. Warlock, F. Birch, F. B. Colman, George L. Allen, Daniel E. Berryman, M. D., Robert Marshall, James Hannay, Rev. D. Macrae, J. S. Dunn, J. P. C. Burpee, John Pickard, M. P., J. W. Lanergan, Sam. Welch, H. W. Chisholm, Jas. Notman, Allan McLean, Edwin Fisher, C. U. Handford, Judge Duff, Lt.-Col. MacShane, Wm. Magee, Jno. Magee, J. R. Ruel, S. F. Matthews, W. Stanley, John R. Rigby, Stephen E. Stevens, T. Furlong, F. McLeod, H. D. McLeod, J. Vassie, R. McFeeters, R. J. Ritchey, W. C. Watson,

I. Allen Jack, J. L. Stewart, W. F. Harrison, Robert Robertson, Harris H. Allen, Hon. J. McMillan, Norris Best, A. C. O. Trentowsky, John Wilson, Andrew J. Armstrong, S. J. King, Hon. E. Willis, W. H. Olive, Levi H. Young, Alex. Rankine, C. H. Chandler, D. R. Munro, A. A. Stockton, James Wallace, M.P., J. W. Nicholson, Thos. Potts, R. Flaherty, Richard Thompson, Rev. Dr. Waters, Jas. Milligan, R. W. Crookshank, S. P. Osgood.

After the several loyal and patriotic toasts had been honored—that of “His Excellency the Governor-General” being drank in a bumper,—the Mayor gave in suitable terms—“Our Guest—Hon. Alexander Mackenzie, Premier of Canada.” (The toast was received with great enthusiasm which prevented the Mayor completing his speech.)

Mr. MACKENZIE replied,—Mr. Mayor and gentlemen: I am sorry that the eagerness of the company to drink my health has been the means of depriving us of the pleasure of hearing the remainder of the Mayor's speech, but I trust that some time during the evening we will have an opportunity of listening to what he intended to say just now. For my own part I can only say that I am extremely obliged and gratified at the great kindness shown to me by the people of St. John in treating me to so handsome an entertainment, on so sudden a visit and on such short notice. I am sure I have a right to feel pleased and flattered at such a gathering as I see before me to-night, on such notice as was given of my coming. But I am not vain enough to recognize this as a mere personal honor, or to regard it as a tribute to anything I have done, or may do as a Canadian public man, but I regard it as rather a tribute of respect to the office which I hold, and to the Government of the country of which I have the honor at this moment to be the head. (Cheers.) I am glad to see around me to-night many who, although not my political supporters, I am pleased to regard as personal friends. (Cheers.) I am rejoiced that this

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demonstration can in no sense be regarded as a political one, but that men of all parties have combined in it ; and I hope to see the day when mere political differences will have no weight to prevent any of us from entertaining the highest feelings of respect and esteem for those whose political views may not be precisely the same as our own. (Cheers.) I accept this as a tribute paid to the Government of the country. Patriotism sometimes requires us in cases of emergency to support the Government of the country for the time being, and although I am happy to say there is no present emergency to demand such a course, I am not the less glad that the present Government has been able to command your respect, if not your confidence. I have not the honor of being a native of New Brunswick, but perhaps I might say of that as was said by a celebrated politician in the United States, in stamping the State of Ohio, that although nature had not so far favored him as to let him be born in Ohio, if he had to be born again he would not fail to select the State of Ohio as the place of his birth. (Cheers and laughter.) The United States Consul—I call him the United States Consul because, claiming to be an American myself, I do not care to see one nation of this continent monopolize that name—spoke just now of the friendly feeling the people of Canada and the United States should entertain towards each other. I was an early friend to the union of these Provinces, because I regarded their union as necessary to their proper growth and development ; and I believe that here we have the germ of a great and powerful nation, and that we can best serve the cause of liberty and of human progress by being faithful to our union, which I trust will last as long as freedom and progress live on earth. (Great cheers.) I am also and always have been a friend of the United States. During the war I entertained a strong and warm feeling for the cause of union, because I believed it to be the cause of liberty, and because I knew that it meant the destruction of



slavery and the removal of the fetters from the oppressed. I hope the day will never come when any other than friendly feelings will prevail between the people of Canada and the United States. I believe the people of Canada and the United States, though forming two distinct nations, will in the future be so thoroughly united in sentiment as to be able to carry the influence of the British race and the principles of British liberty into all countries. The people of the United States have a great destiny before them, and although it is not, I believe, their manifest destiny to be any larger in territory than they are at present—(great cheering)—I believe my friend, Mr. Blaine, beside me, will agree with me that it is quite large enough now,—they and we have a common task, more than the mere support of a particular Government, or the securing of a third term—(laughter)—or the realization of any of those small political issues which enter more or less into the domestic politics of nations. We, of course, have to give some attention to those questions, and to the keeping of certain machinery in running order, but these are the primary elements of statecraft, and are not comparable in point of importance to those higher principles which move nations, and on which Canada and the United States and Britain may occupy a common ground. The United States have pursued generally a policy of non-intervention in the affairs of other nations, and Great Britain of late years seems to have largely adopted this principle. We, of course, shall follow our leader, as we are bound to do. No doubt, non-intervention is the proper policy in most cases, and perhaps it is in every case the easiest policy to pursue, but it may be carried too far, and may sometimes produce very disastrous results. I do not think that the doctrine of non-intervention should be pursued to such an extent as never to permit a nation to lift a hand on behalf of human liberty, or to grant aid and comfort to the struggling and oppressed. (Cheers.) On some great occasions

it may perhaps be necessary in the future for America and Britain to send more than a mere word to aid the efforts of an oppressed people ; and should such a necessity occur, it would surely be a glorious sight to see these English-speaking nations banded together to aid less fortunate people to obtain that measure of human liberty which they have had the happiness to enjoy for so long a period themselves. As a Canadian, and a Briton, if I have had an ambition, it has been to have my country play a part in the liberation of nations from the fetters which ignorance and bad government have imposed upon them ; and while desirous always to see peace on earth and good-will towards men prevail, I know that these blessings can sometimes only be maintained at the cannon's mouth. I hope that the people of the United States and of Great Britain will always remain true to those great principles on which their institutions are founded, and that their flags may wave together in beauty and harmony in many a distant land, the one bearing on it that emblem of the might of the Creator, the starry heavens which express His infinite power, and the other emblazoned with the emblem of God's greatest work, the Redemption of man. (Great enthusiasm.) I come among you here a comparative stranger in the Maritime Provinces. When I was here before I had very little to say, and perhaps it was just as well, for not being in power, anything I might have said would probably not have had any great effect on the actions of those who then held the reins of Government. But I have now come amongst you as a member of the Government, because, as such, I felt bound to make myself conversant with the wants of the Provinces lying at a distance from the seat of Government. I regret that I had not an opportunity of visiting these fine Provinces sooner, but I found it impossible to do so. But, although I have not been much in this quarter personally, I hope that I know something of the country, and I hope also to show that the Administration is actuated by no

selfish or sectional principle in administering the affairs of Canada. Ontario, being large and populous, is very well able to take care of itself, and I do not know but for this very reason, some of the other Provinces occasionally come off best, because Ontario, being great, must be generous also, and show no grasping spirit. And there is much in these Maritime Provinces to command the attention and admiration of the people of Ontario. Our boast is, that Canada now occupies the fourth place amongst the maritime countries of the world; and I give my friend, Mr. Blaine, notice that, unless his countrymen are very active, in ten years time Canada will occupy the third or perhaps the second place as a maritime country. The naval power of Canada is too a large extent, or almost entirely, I might say, in these Provinces by the sea, and the Government is bound to do all it can to advance the maritime interests of Canada. No nation can hope to prosper that neglects the interests of its shipping and of its commerce. The mother country, with her colonies scattered all over the world, with her ships upon every sea, derives much of her prestige and power from those offshoots of her strength, which grow out of her, not to the detriment of her vigor, but to its increase. And it will be a dark day indeed for Great Britain when she allows her commerce her colonies to fall into neglect. It will fare with her then as it did with ancient Rome. So long as she maintained her colonies, and made herself powerful by maintaining powerful dependencies, she remained the Mistress of the World; but when her legions were suffered to retire from Britain and from Gaul and the outlying posts of her Empire, the blood which, circulating in her limbs, kept them vigorous, was forced back on the heart, and the great city itself became a prey to the Northern barbarians, while the Empire was rent to pieces. I was glad, not long since, to hear of Sir Stafford Northcote, in a recent speech in England, giving expression to his own views and those of the Govern-

ment of which he is a member, with regard to the British Colonies. He said that the present Government was more favorable to the Colonies than former ones had been. This is gratifying. Not that we in Canada ask anything from anybody. As I said to them publicly in England, and have said many times here, we are prepared to do our share, not only in these matters which concern our local affairs chiefly, but also in regard to Imperial interests. But still, although we have these feelings, and give expression to them, we desire English statesmen to have enlightened views with regard to our position towards the mother-country, and to know the views and feelings which actuate a free people. (Cheering.) I am aware that some namby-pamby politicians in the mother-country look upon Canada and the rest of the British Colonies as a stingy man might look upon his poor relations. But we are not poor relations. I am glad that it is beginning to be well understood, both in Great Britain and elsewhere, what our real position is on this continent. A morning paper to-day said it was an interesting coincidence that Mr. Mackenzie and Mr. Blaine should meet as guests at the banquet to-night, the one the head of a Ministry which initiated negotiations for a Treaty of Reciprocity, the other the head of a party which laid the Treaty on the shelf. It was suggested that we might meet and compare notes, and that perhaps we might be able to settle our account. Well, for my part, I may say to Mr. Blaine, "I am willing to trade, but as it requires two to make a bargain, if you are not willing, I must go somewhere else." The extension of commerce between nations, especially countries such as Canada and the United States, I believe would be the means of conferring the greatest possible benefits on both. No doubt Mr. Blaine thinks as I do with regard to the advantages of an extended commerce, although we may differ with regard to the terms on which such commerce should be carried on. I hope, however, that before long we shall have such an extended reciprocal

trade between Canada and the United States as will be satisfactory and materially advantageous to both. If we did not succeed in obtaining a reciprocity treaty, we had the satisfaction of doing something to increase that community of interests which people so nearly allied and living so near together should feel for each other. Last year we were able to establish a reciprocal postal arrangement by which, for one rate, letters might be carried from Canada to any part of the United States, and *vice versa*, each country undertaking to convey to any point within it the letters coming from the other. Nothing conduces more to the spread of information, and, indeed, to the increase of civilizing influences than a good postal system; and so far as postal arrangements are concerned, Canada and the United States are, in fact, one country. The two countries are now bound together by many links of iron, in the shape of railways, and where there are rivers flowing between them we are bridging them over, and so these interlocking iron bands and this mutual hugging may, after all, not be in vain, but may produce in the end substantial results, and I trust that these iron highways between one country and the other may always have an abundant commerce to carry. It would not be proper for me on an occasion such as this, and in such a company as the present, composed of men differing in political views, to introduce party politics into my speech. Still, however, it is scarcely possible to avoid saying something as to the current events of the day. Since the Government of which I am a member came into power, we have had many perplexing questions before us, some of which belong to the peculiar domain of no party; but which must be regarded rather as general questions affecting equally the interests of all. I have always felt since I was a boy, the greatest interest in two or three things connected with politics. One has been to get the electoral machinery of the country so adjusted that every man shall be at liberty to vote for whom he pleases, without the possibility of his being co-

erced, or intimidated, or bribed by any one else. To effect this was, I felt, the only way to cut down every species of class legislation, and to that end I have endeavored to secure to the voter that no undue pressure can be brought to bear upon him at elections. That end, I think, has been fairly well accomplished by recent legislation. All the churches in this land stand upon an equal footing; all the men in this country have equal rights. These are things that have been long secured to us—but until lately there was no election law which made it impossible for a corrupt man to secure a seat in Parliament and to take a share in the government of the country. The present Government has fortunately been able to secure a law which gives protection to the voter and takes power out of the hands of those who would bribe the constituencies and purchase their way into Parliament. Another part of the platform which the present Government has adopted, and which is of equal interest to all parties, is to fill up that vast, unknown, fertile land—our domain of the North West—a land of boundless resources, where great prairies stretch toward the setting sun, the home of nations yet to be. (Cheers.) To this great land we welcome the men of all nations, and have an especial welcome for those from the United States. (Laughter.) The land is rich, and its wealth is abundant, and there is room enough there for the millions who we hope soon to see tilling its fertile plains; and the tide of emigration flows towards it steadily.

I hear the tread of pioneers  
Of nations yet to be,  
The first low wash of waves where soon  
Shall roll a human sea.

And as the West increases in population, and wealth, and power, the Maritime Provinces will gain additional importance as the outlet of the millions who shall fill that as yet unpeopled continent. (Loud and prolonged cheering.) I am anxious, and all the members of the Government are with me in this,

to do everything that the Government can fairly do for the Provinces by the sea. My stay here will be but short, but I expect to see many people during my brief visit, and I hope to be able to carry a message from the people of the East to those of the West, and congratulate them that the Anti-Confederates have all disappeared from the Maritime Provinces, and that those who formerly opposed the Union are now as thoroughly devoted to it as any. I hope and believe that the conduct of the larger Provinces towards the smaller will always be such as to inspire confidence in their desire to act justly and honorably towards each other. Many initial differences had to be met and were to be expected in a country so large, peopled by persons who at first knew comparatively little of each other, by men of different races and of different creeds; but I have always found that a little forbearance and wisdom will in the end secure tranquility, and I may fairly call on all here, as I have called on the men I have addressed in other places, to lend their aid to remove those little troubles which lie on the surface, which are after all but ripples on the stream of time. In conclusion, it only remains for me, for myself and on behalf of the Government, to return my most hearty and sincere thanks for the great kindness I have received in St. John, and I shall not fail to tell my colleagues when I return how cordial you were in receiving one of the Western men here to-night, and in doing honor to the position which he holds. (Loud and prolonged applause.)

Various other toasts were given and responded to by the Chairman, Hon. T. W. Anglin, Senator Botsford, Hon. W. Wedderburn, Sheriff Harding, Hon. Mr. Blaine, Hon. Mr. Hale, Hon. Mr. Smith, Hon. Mr. Young, Hon. Mr. Howland, Hon. Mr. Mackenzie, Mr. John Magee, Mr. Brydges, Mr. Peter Jack, Hon. Mr. Willis, Mr. Thos. Gilbert, Mr. James Milligan, and others.

After some further interchange of good feeling, the fine

assemblage broke up. While the speeches were being delivered, especially those of the Premier and Hon. Messrs. Anglin, Blaine, Hale, etc., all the avenues leading to the doors were crowded with outside auditors.

The dinner was enlivened by music from the Band of the 62nd Battalion, which was very much enjoyed.

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#### PRESENTATION OF AN ADDRESS AT AMHERST.

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At Amherst, Oct. 30, Mr. Mackenzie was presented with an address, which was read by the Sheriff of Cumberland County and signed by the leading citizens of both parties. Mr. Mackenzie made an appropriate reply.

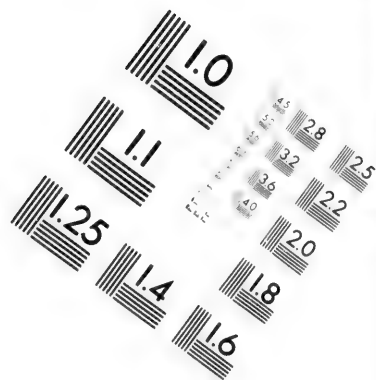
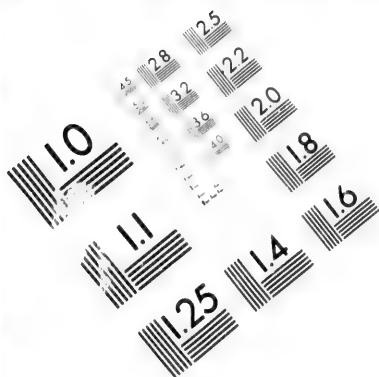
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#### SPEECH AT PUBLIC MEETING IN HALIFAX.

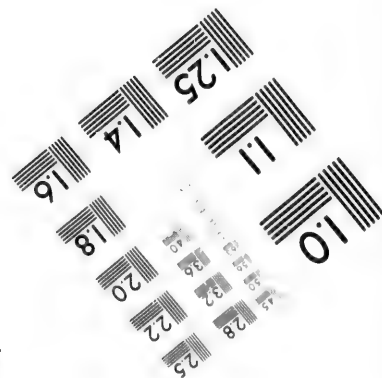
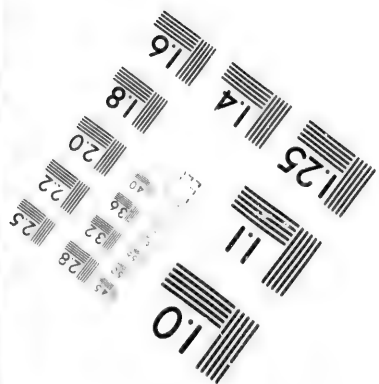
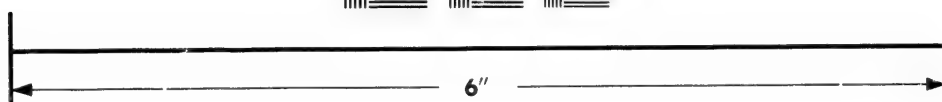
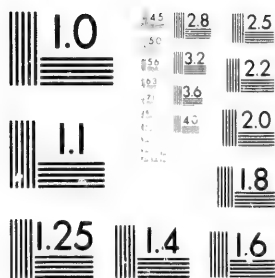
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The public meeting of the citizens, called to hear a speech from the Hon. Alexander Mackenzie, took place at Temperance Hall on 1st November, and was one of the largest and best ever held in the city. Before the doors were opened a large crowd had gathered outside. By half-past seven the Hall was well filled, and before the time appointed for the commencement of proceedings there was a perfect jam inside, and a crowd outside unable to gain admittance. Hon. Mr. Mackenzie arrived a few minutes before 8 o'clock, and promptly at that hour his Worship the Mayor took the chair. There were on the platform, besides the chairman and the Premier, Hon. Thomas Coffin, Receiver-General; A. G. Jones, M. P. for Halifax; J. W. Carmichael, M. P. for Pictou; Hon. P. C. Hill, Provincial Secretary; Hon. Stayley Brown, Provincial Treasurer; Hon. Daniel McDonald, Attorney-General;





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Hon. Robert Robertson, Commissioner of Public Works and Mines ; Dr. Farrell, M. P. P. for Halifax ; C. J. Brydges, Aldermen Forsyth, M. J. Power, L. G. Power, Nisbet, and McPherson ; Geo. J. Troop, Warden of Dartmouth ; Wm. J. Stairs, Peter Lynch, Q. C., J. B. Duffus, Daniel Cronan, John Taylor, John Gibson, J. Duffus, Wm. Esson, M. Dwyer, Wm. Chisholm, H. H. Fuller, Alex. Stephen, R. W. Fraser, E. G. Stayner, and other gentlemen. The audience was a good representation of the citizens of Halifax of all classes. There were prominent men in all parts of the hall. Among others we noticed Mr. Power, M. P. for Halifax, who was unable to make his way to the platform in consequence the densely-crowded state of the hall.

Mr. MACKENZIE prefaced his remarks by expressing the pleasure he felt at meeting so many Nova Scotians. In the fight carried on some years ago for Constitutional rights and privileges, Nova Scotia had borne a foremost part, and did much through her public men to secure them. He hoped the days were not past when Nova Scotia's sons would distinguish themselves, for although some imagined there was little or nothing to do, he himself thought great events were yet before us. Reforms were yet to be achieved by all the Provinces. He would not notice the attacks made on him, nor would he do aught else than allude to matters of general interest. It was a good thing for public men to meet their constituents every now and then, and it was especially the part of the leader of the Government to make himself acquainted with the different parts of the country, and to see that no section suffered from maladministration. Nothing should ever prevent him doing most ample justice to every part of the country. A fear had been expressed that as the larger Provinces grew in power and influence, they would be apt to do things which would prove distasteful to the smaller, but he inclined to the belief that the opposite would be the case, and that greatness would beget

generous dealings. At all events, with him, the rule of political life would be as it had been—justice to every section, and no more than justice to each. There were of course difficulties in governing such a vast country as the Dominion of Canada, where different races, and creeds, and languages co-existed, but the Government looked to the patriotism of the people to assist them to overcome all these obstacles. He referred at length to the causes of the depression of trade, which he ascribed in a great measure to overproduction. It was as absurd to blame the Government for this as to praise them for the good crops. He pointed to the United States and Germany, where the depression is even greater. We could not expect ever to have an unchecked course of prosperity when entering on enterprises carrying their own burdens with them. He also spoke on the Government railway policy, and declared that all the resources of the British Empire could not build the Canada Pacific in ten years, as had been agreed on by the late Cabinet. The system of the utilization of the great water stretches was calculated to promote immigration to the Northwest, and he pointed out that the immigration policy now in force was a most liberal one. As for dissatisfaction in British Columbia, he hoped it would yield to the common-sense view of affairs. At present the people there wanted the road built first, and surveyed afterwards. But the surveyors had not yet been able to locate the railway across the mountains. He characterized the charge of disloyalty sometimes brought against Reformers as simply absurd, and reviewed various measures of importance carried through by the Government, alluding particularly to the loan effected by Mr. Cartwright, which he declared to be a successful financial operation. He further dwelt on the necessity of establishing a system of statistics for the Dominion; on the Galt letter; and on the probable effects of English legislation on Canadian shipping. The hon. gentleman spoke for an hour and a half, and was

listened to throughout with deep attention, being frequently applauded.

Mr. A. G. JONES, M. P., moved a vote of thanks, which was seconded by Hon. P. C. HILL.

The MAYOR, in putting the motion, said he was sure all present would agree with him in thanking the Premier for the interest and information he had displayed with regard to our manufacturing and other industries.

The motion was then put and carried unanimously and enthusiastically.

Mr. MACKENZIE, in acknowledging the vote of thanks, said— I am exceedingly obliged, Mr. Mayor, for this generous vote of thanks and for the complimentary terms in which it has been proposed by the gentlemen present and submitted by yourself. I hope I have said nothing to grate harshly upon the views or feelings of political opponents, of whom there must be many present. If I do not command their political support, I hope my conduct will always be such as not to forfeit their personal esteem.

The MAYOR then proposed three cheers for the Queen, which were given, and with cheers for the Premier and the Mayor, the meeting broke up.

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#### PRESENTATION OF ADDRESSES AT DORCHESTER AND MONCTON.

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MONCTON, N. B., Nov. 2.—The Premier has everywhere received a most cordial welcome from the people of the Maritime Provinces. Mr. Mackenzie left Halifax at half-past seven this morning to return by way of Moncton and Quebec, passing over the new section of the Intercolonial, most of which is to be opened next week for travel. At Dorchester the party was met at the station by Hon. A. J. Smith, representative of the

county, Senator Botsford, the High Sheriff, and other prominent gentlemen, and by a large assemblage, who heartily cheered the Premier on alighting from the train. The town was gaily decorated with flags. The party were driven to the residence of the Minister of Marine, where many of the chief people met them at luncheon, and from thence to the county buildings, where the Sheriff presented Mr. Mackenzie with an address, to which he replied at some length, and was followed by Hon. Mr. Smith. Both speeches were warmly cheered. When Moncton was reached a similar reception was accorded, the railway station being thronged with people, and Mr. Wright, J. P., presenting on their behalf and on behalf of the Town Council an address of welcome. Mr. Mackenzie replied, and Mr. Smith also delivered an address, in which he disabused the minds of the people of the notion which the enemies of the Government had endeavoured to instil into them, of the Premier being an enemy of the Maritime Provinces and their interests, and assured them that no representative of these Provinces had ever gone to him with a just and reasonable request to meet with refusal. In his speeches, both at Dorchester and Moncton, Mr. Mackenzie also referred to the same unjust attacks, which he took occasion to combat, but at the same time impressed upon his hearers that he was the guardian of the interests of the Dominion as a whole, and that it was his duty to deal out an equal measure of justice to each of the several Provinces, reminding them also that there must be everywhere reliance on individual effort. His visit was merely intended as a hurried business visit, to see for himself into matters connected with the public works in these Provinces; nevertheless, it was a great gratification to him to be met by so many friends at the various stages of his journey, and to receive from them so warm and kindly a welcome.

## PRESENTATION OF ADDRESSES AT RIMOUSKI.

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In accordance with the programme, which had been admirably arranged, the Premier and his party, consisting of Mr. C. J. Brydges, Mr. Schreiber, Mr. Buckingham, and others, arrived at Rimouski, on their journey of inspection over the Intercolonial Railway, on Thursday evening, November 4, to meet with a very warm and generous welcome. Before reaching the station the train was backed down over the newly-constructed branch railway to the pier. It then drew up to the station building, where the Premier was saluted by a volley of musketry. Entering carriages, the party were conducted to the hotel, the houses on the route being in part illuminated. Later in the evening the illumination was general, Chinese lanterns being also hung in front of the principal stores, giving to the streets of the place an appearance of great brilliancy. At half-past seven a procession was formed at the hotel, the Premier riding in a carriage with the Mayor and Dr. Fiset, M.P., and escorted by the bearers of torch lights. Many people were in the beautifully-lighted streets, and guns and rockets were fired at intervals, as the procession moved onwards to the station. Here was assembled a vast concourse of the inhabitants, who thronged the waiting room and the approaches thereto and crowded the platform outside. The waiting room was handsomely and very profusely decorated with flags of different nations, with designs in evergreens interspersed. A carpeted *dais* had been prepared for the Premier and the other speakers.

Dr. FISER, then, on behalf of the Mayor and citizens, read both in English and French, and presented the Premier with an address.

The PREMIER, who was loudly cheered, replied as follows:—  
Mr. Mayor, Dr. Fiset and gentlemen,—I regret very much that I am not able to respond in your own language, and that I can only say a few words, in appreciation of what has been so kindly expressed in your address in my own tongue. I am exceedingly obliged for the warmth of the welcome given by the Mayor, the member for the county, and the citizens generally of Rimouski, of which this address and this reception are the evidence. (Applause.) I do not at all forget that in addressing a French Canadian audience in their own Province, I may say for the first time, I am speaking to those referred to in this address, as being the descendants of the first settlers in Canada—the first explorers indeed of the country which we are privileged now to inhabit in common. (Cheers.) I have myself travelled over the route, traversed by Père Marquette and his noble companions, many of the Jesuit Fathers, who sought out the shores of Lake Superior and discovered the sources of the Mississippi long before any English foot had traversed these wilds, and I cordially acknowledge that we owe much to the hardy and patriotic French adventurers of Canada's early days, from Jacques Cartier down to the descendants of that highly-distinguished traveller and discoverer. (Cheers.) And it has always been a source of great pleasure and pride to myself to be associated in the Legislature with my French Canadian fellow-countrymen, who have come from such noble stock, and to enjoy their confidence and friendship in our political and personal relationships. (Loud cheers.) It so happens that at the present moment I am the political leader of the French Liberals and of the English Liberals. (Cheers.) There was a time when I was simply a follower, among many, of a French leader—(loud cheers)—and that time may come again, when, as you know, Dr. Fiset, I shall be as willing to follow as I am now obliged to lead. (Hear, hear.) For we are all obliged in Canada, from motives of patriotism, and, I may say, from



motives of good will and a desire to do our part in our several stations, to unite heartily together to secure the prosperity, the commercial and political advancement, the liberal and independent thought and action of our common country. (Cheers.) I am particularly happy in having the opportunity afforded me of speaking to the people of the County of Rimouski, because I do not forget that long ago, when a great English leader of the Liberal party was unable at the general election to obtain a seat for a constituency in his own Province, the County of Rimouski generously gave him a seat in the Province of Quebec. (Cheers.) It is not perhaps every county in this Province which would have been so magnanimous, even for Robert Baldwin; but I am glad, for the credit of my own Province, to be able to add that Mr. Baldwin's Province reciprocated by giving your French-Canadian Liberal leader, Mr. Lafontaine, the seat for the County of York. (Cheering.) I dare say my friend Dr. Fiset would not like to be compelled now to go to the County of York for a constituency, and he would not think it convenient for me to come to Rimouski—though I may come here to ask you to make me your representative, for all that. (Great cheering and laughter.) And in case I may find it necessary to follow the course of Mr. Baldwin, I avail myself of the present favourable opportunity of soliciting your votes and your influence. (Renewed cheers and laughter.) The address just presented to me refers to the geographical position which Rimouski occupies as a probable seaport for ocean steamers in the near future. I can assure you that nothing would gratify my colleagues and myself more than to see a winter harbour in the St. Lawrence, where our ocean steamers could land their mails, freights, and passengers on our own shores, instead of going to the port of Portland, in the United States. (Cheers.) And any Government will as a matter of course be bound to consider everything that can be said in favour of any place in furtherance of an object so much to be desired. (Hear, hear.)

Meanwhile, it is gratifying to know that by means of the railroad which now passes your doors, and which will be finished entirely from end to end in the course of a few months, we will be able to carry our passengers, our mails and our freight, if we so desire, from the port of Halifax or of St. John to the Provinces in the West. (Hear, hear.) I again assure you that I desire to do everything in my power to advance the prosperity of Rimouski and other ports on the Lower St. Lawrence. Indeed, I would not be acting justly to the Province of Quebec, or to the Dominion as a whole, if I did not devote my attention as Minister of Public Works to any reasonable measure required to extend the interests of commerce in connection with our great national artery, the St. Lawrence River. (Cheers.) I hope before many years to witness the fruits of the energy and sacrifice which the Canadian people have put forth in improving the water courses and building the canals in the West, [in the bringing to the ocean by our own mighty river a very large proportion of the freight which now finds its way to New York and other ports on the Atlantic coast, and I trust that you and the other communities who have their homes on the shores of the St. Lawrence may largely benefit by it. (Cheers.) The railroad now being constructed, and which is nearly completed, will likewise give to our friends in Ontario and the Western portion of the country easier access to the seaside and to the beautiful scenery in the Metapedia Valley, through which I passed this morning, and which for want of the means of communication has hitherto been closed against all visitors save those living in the immediate vicinity. (Hear, hear.) You allude, sir, in this address to one little cloud as overshadowing our political horizon—the position of the Roman Catholic population of New Brunswick in relation to the school question, and you express a hope that through the benign influence of Her Majesty the Queen their position may be ameliorated. I have no doubt,

for my own part, that in New Brunswick, as well as in every portion of the Dominion, all reasonable concessions will be made, so as to enable both the Catholics and the Protestants to unite cordially and to act harmoniously with each other in promoting the work they have both so much at heart—the cause of education. (Cheers.) I am satisfied that no reasonable person would for one moment desire that the religious feelings of any portion of our population should be in the slightest degree wounded by the action of the Government or Legislature of any one of the Provinces. (Cheers.) But where prejudices may have been aroused and strong feelings evoked, time is necessary to calm men's minds, and I have no doubt that in New Brunswick this great ameliorating influence will result in bringing about such a settlement as will be reasonably satisfactory to both sides. (Cheers.)

Mr. Mayor, I have often alluded to a fact well known to the students of history illustrative of the liberality of the French people of Lower Canada. Long before the Jew had the right to hold an inch of land even in Great Britain itself—long before the Jew was permitted to occupy a seat in the British Parliament—long before he could as much as vote for a member of Parliament, the Legislature of our own Province of Quebec gave to his persecuted race perfect freedom and equality. (Cheers.) And, still more to the credit of Lower Canada be it said, this was before the union of the Provinces, when there was no outside influence to produce such a result, but when the fine old French people, pervaded as they always have been, by the feeling to do justly and liberally to all men, gave to the Jew those privileges in common with the rest of the community which he was unable till years afterwards of struggle and agitation to wring even from the English people themselves. (Cheers.) I hope, sir, that this feeling of liberality will continue to expand and extend, so that the narrow prejudices of class and creed may be made to fall back before the

liberal views, thoughts and aspirations which must ever guide and direct the councils of a great and enlightened people. (Loud applause.) I would be glad to address you at much greater length were I only able to speak in the language which most of you understand best. Permit me to say in conclusion that nothing would give me greater pleasure than to look forward to the possibility of being able to do so at some future time. I thank you with my whole heart for the kindness you have shown me to-night. I attribute your welcome to the true reason of my being at the head of the Government of which my friend, Dr. Fiset, is a hearty and generous supporter. (Cheers.) On my own behalf, and on behalf of my colleagues, I thank you. I will always bear in my heart the remembrance of the generosity you have to-night shown me, and it may prove to be a source of pleasure, should I be spared, in years to come, when perhaps I may be out of office and out of Parliament, to think that on the occasion of my visiting you at this time, on a mission of a purely business and hurried nature, and not with any hope whatever of seeing so many of the people, I received in Rimouski so hearty, spontaneous and general a welcome. (Loud and enthusiastic cheering.) Mr. Mackenzie then suggested that perhaps his friends would be gratified were Dr. Fiset or some other gentleman to give the purport of his remarks in French.

Dr. Fiset spoke briefly in that language, remarking that Mr. Mackenzie had made himself well understood, as was shown by the plaudits of his hearers, and concluded by calling for cheers for the Premier, which was responded to with great enthusiasm.

Mr. W. H. STEVENSON then advanced and delivered an address, signed by the employés of the railway.

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS replied :—Mr. Stevenson and employés of the road,—I thank you cordially for the kindness you have done me in presenting this address from a body of

men who to some extent may be regarded as the representatives of the interests of the working classes. Permit me to remind you that in this country we are all workingmen. (Cheers.) There is here no aristocratic class. In order to success and prosperity, each one must labour in his own particular sphere, for his own interest and for the common good. (Cheers.) And no one willing and able to work, need in this country repine at his lot, for toil brings to him advantages and privileges which people in more favoured circumstances—erroneously so regarded—in many other countries do not enjoy, foremost amongst which is independence through the possession of the land. (Cheers.) As to the position of the employés on the Intercolonial Railway, you are doubtless aware that I have taken care, whenever failures have occurred in giving effect to contracts, that the workingman at least was not deprived of his hardly-earned wages. (Cheers.) I hope for the future all employés of the Government on this and on every other public work will be treated in the same way, so as to do full justice to them and secure in return the best possible service they can render the country. (Cheers.) I thank you again for this address, and I wish those over whom I am placed as Minister of Public Works abundant prosperity and happiness. (Loud applause.)

Many gentlemen having been introduced to the Premier, he was conducted to his carriage and driven to the hotel amid much cheering.

## SPEECH AT THE BANQUET IN MONTREAL.

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In rising to respond to the toast of "The Ministry of the Dominion of Canada," at the Banquet to Mr. Frederick Mac-kenzie in Montreal, 15 Nov., 1875,—

The PREMIER was received with deafening enthusiasm. He said,—Mr. Chairman and gentlemen of Montreal: I am sure the members of the Government present feel highly honoured by the complimentary terms in which you, sir, have given the toast now before us, and I feel much more than I can convey the kind expressions you have used towards myself personally as well as the kind words used by my friend the late member for Montreal, the guest of the evening. Nothing has given me greater pleasure than to be able to come here to-night to join in that well-deserved tribute of praise which you are paying to your late member, and with the feeling of regret which every one of his late colleagues in Parliament must feel at being deprived of his services, but that feeling is relieved by the knowledge that his place is so worthily filled by the Chairman of this evening. (Applause.) I am well aware that in giving the toast you have done, and in referring to the Administration as you have done, it is chiefly on public grounds that I am called upon as the head of the Administration to respond to the remarks you have made, and the feelings expressed by this meeting. Now, sir, I have been called on lately to make a good many speeches, and I observe ubiquitous reporters are here as everywhere else—that class of press-men to whom all public men owe so much for the polishing off of their speeches, and the making of good grammar out of their bad. (Laughter). But, on the other hand, there is a

further side to the question ; that we are apt in public speaking to repeat ourselves, and they reproduce only too faithfully everything that is said. I shall endeavour, in the few remarks I shall make, to confine myself to subjects not dealt with specifically in late addresses. (Hear, hear.) I had the pleasure of visiting some of the remote parts of the Dominion, and of witnessing the reaction that is taking place in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. (Hear, hear, and applause.) On my last visit, two and a half years ago, I found a pretty strong feeling prevailed in favour of close union with the Reformers of the West. (Applause.) On this occasion I saw a much stronger feeling than I have witnessed before in favour of the same course—(applause)—and, in fact, in the city of St. Johns, the Opposition Press had about entirely disappeared. And although I did not attend a political meeting there, but a meeting personally complimentary to myself, still I had the pleasure of knowing that a very large number of those who at one time were opposed to myself and to the Government, were now entirely favourable to us, and at this moment the Administration stands stronger there than ever before. (Loud applause.) I am aware that speeches out of Parliament are sometimes inconvenient, when indiscreet people like myself have to utter them—(loud laughter)—but I must endeavour to avoid committing myself to any great extent, upon questions that may have to be discussed in Parliament and have not yet been discussed in public. (Hear, hear.) To be sure, sir, there have been several speeches made of late—(laughter)—some very remarkable speeches made of late—(hear, hear)—some of a very unsavoury character ; some made with all the recklessness of despair and with all the bitterness of malice. (Hear, hear.) I dare say you have all read Hudibras, and you will all remember a very terse description of character there that is given of a certain Prince and his daily food, and I could not but be reminded of the mental pabulum dealt out to their

followers by the Conservative leaders lately, and wondering if its peculiar character was because of the physical nutriment which they received. The Hudibras narrative says :—

The Prince of Cambays' daily food  
Is asp and basilisk and toad ;  
Which gives to him so strong a breath,  
He nightly stinks a queen to death.

(Loud and prolonged laughter). If the Conservative leaders have not yet succeeded in killing their followers in this way, they are more hardened characters than I take them to be. One of the gentlemen—(laughter)—the member-elect for the Western metropolis—and I regret to say it, for I have been on terms of personal intercourse with him for years in Parliament, I was in Opposition when he was a Minister—I regret to say he condescended to attack the living who are not able to defend themselves, and the honoured dead that have passed away. I was shocked beyond measure to find that to serve political purposes the memory and history of Chancellor Blake should be dragged in the dirt to wound the feelings of his living son. (Hear, hear, from all parts of the house). I regret it all the more because I revere the memory of Chancellor Blake as one of the great leaders of the Reform party in 1847, working in harmony with Robert Baldwin and Mr. Lafontaine—because he was the man of all others who introduced reforms in legal practice in the West—because, perhaps, he was the only man in that day fitted to assume the highest judicial position in Canada West ; and it was a matter of regret to the leaders of the Reform party, and to the rank and file of that party, when the leaders felt called upon by public opinion to urge upon him as they did to accept the office, of Chancellor of the Court of Chancery. In accepting that office, he did so with great reluctance, as a man in the prime of life must have done to leave the halls of legislation where he was so eminently calculated to shine—(hear, hear)—and no one who has read his great speech on the then burning question of the



day—the clergy reserves—would doubt but what he would have been the first man of his time, if he had remained in political life. (Hear, hear.) And, sir, the Chief Justice of the Province of Quebec was attacked in the same manner, after he had obtained a seat upon the Bench, for getting there in an unworthy manner. (Shame, shame.) Mr. Mackenzie remarked that on the floor of the House he flattened that scandal, and continued: He (the Chief Justice) had no intention of occupying that position until after he left the House. It was only after the House rose that I felt compelled, greatly against my will, to press upon him the acceptance of the highest office in the gift of the Crown in his native Province. (Applause.) And of Mr. Dorion and the late Chancellor Blake we might well repeat the words of the poet:—

A statesman, yet a friend, of soul sincere,  
In action faithful, and in honour clear,  
Who broke no promise, served no private end,  
Who gained no title, and who lost no friend.

(Loud applause). When I find public men designating one of the judges as "Sam Blake," I do think it is high time for the public opinion of the country to interfere—(hear, hear, and applause)—and it is all the more so, because there is no judge that ever lived in Canada, or ever will live in Canada, who is more entitled to the undivided respect of the community than is Vice-Chancellor Blake. (Applause.) I pass over this matter with these remarks, but I felt that I could not dare to address a public meeting after the production of that speech, without at least making some reference to what has passed, and defending those not in a position to defend themselves. (Hear, hear.) And when political parties, or the leaders of political parties, resort to what has been resorted to so long by the Conservatives, it is strong evidence of the utter want of any ability to say anything that is worth hearing. (Hear, hear, and applause.) We have been talked

about as Archy McKellar, Geordie Brown, Ned Blake, and Sandy Mackenzie. (Laughter and applause.) Who ever heard of any Reformer speaking of Jack Macdonald and Charley Tupper? (Loud laughter.) I think, sir, it is Captain Marryat who relates an incident that occurred in his presence, where some one was pluming himself upon being a gentleman, but at the same time using some strong terms and regretting that the other person he was talking to was not a gentleman. The person who was reproached said, "Are you a gentleman?" "Yes, sir," was the reply, and the rejoinder, "Then I thank God that I am not one." (Loud and prolonged laughter.) Well, sir, I am not at all surprised—an old politician like my friend Senator Penny and myself will not be surprised—at the tactics the Tory leaders—(hear, hear)—and the Tory party have employed ever since our assumption of office. We were in the habit of endeavouring to conduct ourselves at least in a respectable manner, and of managing the business of the House, while on the Opposition side, in such a way. (Hear, hear.) I recollect having been referred to very often by Dr. Tupper as the distinguished member for Lambton. (Laughter.) I recollect being thanked for the assistance I have given these gentlemen; but the moment they assume the same position, there are no terms too hard to be used, no attack too horrible to be made by the newspapers they have, no language too offensive to their opponents. Every action is misrepresented; every bill or measure introduced is misrepresented; everything connected with the history and political character of the man misrepresented; private affairs, that have no connection with State matters, are misrepresented; and it is the policy of these men, apparently, to follow such a course as will drive every respectable man from public life, so that they can have it all to themselves. (Hear, hear.) Well, sir, I understand their tactics. (Hear, hear, and applause.) I understand their tactics, I say; I fought with the beast, not at Ephesus,

but at a much nearer place, not so long ago—(laughter)—and I understand the nature of the political party who rejoice in the name of Liberal Conservatives in Canada. (Hear, hear.) But at the same time, be it far from me to say anything disrespectful personally. I allude simply to the general policy. We recollect how Mr. Baldwin and Mr. Lafontaine were treated; we recollect how one gentleman, now living in this city, was denounced to-day as “steeped to the lips in corruption,” and received into the Cabinet confidence to-morrow; we recollect always, and will always recollect, that the howl of the want of loyalty has been raised when everything else fails. I may rejoice in an exemption in that respect, for I am told I am as loyal as Sir John A. Macdonald. (Hear, hear.) It is well to have such a certificate of character from so distinguished a source—(laughter)—and I assure him I give it all the prominence it deserves. (Renewed laughter.) But, sir, to come down to matters that have been treated of in these speeches. It may be worth while to notice what they are. I have read Dr. Tupper’s speech, as delivered, with much care, and I have failed to find anything in it. (Laughter.) He says he opposed this Government because they have no principle. Well, I think that the very reason why Dr. Tupper should support us. (Laughter and applause.) I consider that a man should always endeavour to add to his own party such converts as he can get. (Applause.) Then, sir, he proceeds to discuss various matters with a want of intelligence and experience which is extraordinary in a man of such abilities. To be sure, he approaches the question of free trade and protection very gingerly—(laughter)—and I defy any one after reading his speech to rise up and say what he is. I recollect that he and his friends have endeavoured to represent us as hostile to Canadian manufactures, but, sir, there was no one who offered more violent opposition to the Government when they imposed the additional 2½ per cent., and he denounced us because he said we were entering

the "thin wedge of protection." (Laughter.) His words are on record, gentlemen. I have invited Sir John A. Macdonald and Dr. Tupper, and I invite them again to-night, to tell me whether they are Protectionists or Free Traders. (Applause.) I have boldly defined myself as a Free Trader in principle, and I have stated in my public speeches before and after I assumed office that it was impossible for us in our circumstances, and contiguous as we are to the United States, to carry out in practice the views of Free Trade which I have. (Loud applause.) When they adopt a Free Trade policy on the other side, we shall be all the better able to adopt it here—(loud applause)—and our policy is simply at the present time, as it will be at all times for the future, to adopt that course in commercial legislation which will best serve the interests of our own country. (Loud and prolonged applause.) Now, gentlemen, there was another subject upon which Dr. Tupper waxed eloquent, and if I recollect rightly, Mr. Thomas White waxed eloquent on the same subject when he went to advocate the claims of his party at Hamilton. (Laughter.) That was the iniquity—the monstrous iniquity, it was called—of building the Georgian Bay branch of the railway. I had the pleasure of having a deputation visit me on this point from Quebec, and a number of gentlemen from Toronto, and I may have been mistaken, but I was impressed with the belief that both deputations went away satisfied that the Government did the right thing—(applause)—in that transaction. I am quite aware that at Toronto it may be well for the demagogues to represent that this road was being built to benefit Quebec, and it may be possible for similar persons to represent elsewhere that because it was built on Ontario soil it was absolutely an Ontario enterprise. (Laughter.) The truth is simply this,—the Government determined not to build that part of the line between the west end of Lake Superior and Lake Nipissing, where there was no population—not one soul—where the difficulties to be overcome were enor-

mous ; but they did determine to get the road into the western country as quickly as possible, through the Ottawa Valley, to place Quebec and the Eastern Provinces in as favourable a position as Ontario was already in, to go the nearest way they could to the North West. It may have been a mistake—I don't think it was—(applause)—and I am prepared to defend that policy—(hear, hear)—and have defended it ; but there is one thing quite certain, that the motive I have uttered was a righteous motive, to do ample and full justice to all sections of the country—(hear, hear)—and I only ask those gentlemen who made the speeches at Toronto—I invite them to come here and make the same speeches ; and, *vice versa*, those who made speeches here to go to Toronto and make them there. I make speeches on an intelligent policy which is based on principle. (Applause.) Now, sir, the great accusation—and it is a fair accusation, if true—the great accusation brought against the Administration by Sir John A. Macdonald in his speech delivered somewhat late in the evening, I believe—(laughter)—was incapacity on the part of the Government. Well, sir, I admit that if the charge is proved against the Government, it is a fair charge upon which to expel them from power. (Hear, hear.) There may be a wicked Ministry, a useless Ministry, an incapable Ministry, and incapable Administrations may sometimes do as much harm to the country as a positively wicked Administration would do, but when a man in the Opposition ranks charges me with incapacity, he will not object if we call, as lawyers say, for a bill a particulars. (Hear, hear.) He has not condescended to do this, except in one or two matters which I will notice hereafter.

A VOICE—The Colorado bug.

Mr. MACKENZIE—My friend reminds me that Sir John blamed us for introducing the Colorado bug, That would not be so much incapacity as wickedness. Whilst I object to that insect, the assertion was incorrect in an historical point of view,

because the bug came in a year and a half before we came in. (Laughter). However, I say to you very frankly, if the question lay between the bug and the retention of Sir John in power, I should say the people would choose the bug. (Loud laughter). The only other point of any significance in which he assailed the Administration is this. He said, "Mr. Mackenzie is no doubt capable; he is as loyal as I am; but he is in bad company; he has the Hon. Lucius Seth Huntington with him.

At this the audience applauded in the most enthusiastic manner, and rising with bumpers, drank the health of the hon. the Postmaster-General, and cheered for several minutes. When the cheering subsided and the audience were seated.

Mr. MACKENZIE continued: I don't know what particular charge they have against the Hon. Lucius Seth Huntington. He is not a very ferocious-looking man. (Laughter.) He is of a kind different from me; he is of the kind that "sleep well o' nights"—(laughter and applause)—and is not likely to do any one serious harm. But then Sir John said that he made a speech, representing that Canada would flourish better as an independent country. Well sir, I think Sir John had two or three colleagues in his life time, who took stronger ground than that, claiming that it would flourish better as an adjunct to the United States. It is too trifling, this, gentlemen,—(hear, hear)—and when I find a leading statesman taking ground that there shall be no speculative opinions tolerated, I say it is carrying trifling too far. (Hear, hear.) Her Gracious Majesty did not hesitate to confer a title upon a very distinguished Canadian politician, long after he took the same ground Mr. Huntington did, on one occasion; and surely, sir, if Her Majesty can afford to pass by an expression of opinion on that point, the Canadian Government can afford to follow such a noble and liberal example. (Applause.) But, sir, the real truth is this,—the poor man had

nothing to say, and had to furbish up something for the motley crowd he was addressing. (Applause.) I propose now to deal with the main charge. What was the condition of affairs when we assumed office? Was it not a scene of turmoil from one end of the Dominion to the other? Had the discontent in British Columbia not commenced and commenced some months before that? Had not the Government been called upon for the settlement of their claims before we assumed office? Had not the time elapsed for them to commence building the railway? Had they not a year before—when they had a majority that could have done anything—had they not sent one of their politicians, who is to be found anywhere and everywhere, to Manitoba, with a retinue of their own men to assume the Government in defiance of the people of the country? (Hear, hear.) Did they not by mismanagement kindle the blaze of insurrection—a blaze they were unable to quench? When we assumed office we found the Province burning with discontent—found one man branded as a murderer. We found that man had obtained \$3,000 from Sir John in order to go away. We found this temporizing with power in every quarter, and we were obliged to take the matters in hand and settle them, and this is the man who dares charge us with incapacity. (Loud applause.) Sir, during the time that the scheme of Confederation was being prepared, they acknowledged that I lent them all the aid in my power; that I did everything they asked; that I voted against many warm friends of my own in order to leave them without excuse; and yet, sir, that document was so much bungled that it is difficult to say what is the grammatical reading of many of its provisions. We had the Separate School difficulty in New Brunswick, under their management, and we have had to settle that. That is another evidence of our incapacity. I was over the Intercolonial Railway the other day. It was of vast importance that the best possible road should be chosen. I opposed the road they chose.

I know that Sir John A. Macdonald, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Tilley, Mr. McDougall and Mr. Howland took the same view that I did; but to serve a particular purpose and secure a particular vote they deliberately set aside their own convictions rather than break up the Government and go out of office, and as one of them afterwards, when he quarrelled with the others, said, in a pamphlet he published, "We threw \$8,000,000 into the sea." But then you have this so-called capable Government and the present incapable Government, and we shall see by-and-by what the result of their respective policies will be. (Applause.) Trade and commerce cannot be forced—it will take the shortest channel to its ultimate destination. When I inform you that a railway company have already built a line more than half way from Fredericton to Rivière du Loup and that the road pays, you will see, gentlemen, where the incapacity was. This, sir, we have always sought, and I have taken ground very strongly in advance of any Ministry, to have Canadian statesmen do Canadian work for Canadian interests. (Hear, hear.) You are aware that the present Administration in Great Britain, composed of Conservative gentlemen—for the Conservatives in England are not like the Conservatives in Canada—(Cries of "No, no")—you are aware that the Conservative Government have endorsed that principle by acting as the present Government desires in these matters. But, sir, there was a Canadian at Washington as commissioner some years ago. (Laughter.) You know who that was, and you know what the treaty was. Let us take a few specimens. Why, sir, he gave away the free navigation of the St. Lawrence forever, and got—what? Liberty to navigate Lake Michigan in the United States for ten years. But then, you know, he is a very capable man, this leader of the Opposition. (Laughter.) There is a great river falling into the sea at the north west end of this continent, the Yukon; and the Stickeen rises in our territory but passes through Alaska to the sea, at Fort Wrangel. In



1325 a convention was entered into by Russia with Great Britain guaranteeing to Great Britain the free navigation of this river for all time to come. Well, do you know this capable diplomat of ours at Washington actually got this same thing secured in the Washington Treaty? (Laughter.) He did not know we had that forty years ago. (Laughter.) Some time ago there was a canal built, called the St. Clair Flats canal. We had the evidence of an United States General of Engineers that it was being made on the shoals on our side of the channel. I know the place better than I do Montreal. Everyone knows the canal is on our side, but Sir John A. Macdonald graciously accepted—(oh, oh)—the privilege of going through these waters. (Laughter.) He attacks the tariff of last year very seriously, but as usual gives in no bill of particulars. He says  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. is no use because we said it was temporary, and no manufacturer would base operations upon it. I never said it was temporary. (Applause.) Mr. Cartwright never said it was temporary. (Applause.) On the contrary, we took the ground that we thought it might suffice, but we had no idea that we could do with any less for a long time. (Applause.) But I invite Sir John in his next speech to show where we said anything of the kind. (Applause.) But then he contends that Mr. Cartwright and the Ministry show incapacity because they made changes during the sittings of the House. But with what face can Sir John speak of the tariff in that way, when we remember that three or four years before they changed their entire tariff between six and half-past seven—we had one tariff in the afternoon, and after dinner another entirely changed—right about face, as it were. (Laughter.) And we are charged with incapacity because we allowed full discussion of the subject, and took the sense of the House in making some necessary changes. No tariff was ever taken through any Parliament without having to submit to severe discussion and to give rise to deputations,

and the Ministry that would fail to give attention to representations would show not its incapacity but its imbecility. (Applause.) But, sir, of all things in the world, these two gentlemen—Messrs. Tupper and Macdonald—ventured to discuss the Pacific Railway, and found fault with the Government plan. Now, sir, that plan has been much misrepresented. Let us review for a moment the position in which we found this question. When British Columbians sued for admission to the Dominion, you will remember they asked for assistance to build a railway; they wanted, in short, to have a waggon road built within a certain time after the union took place, and, as soon as the surveys were made, that \$1,000,000 a year should be spent. These terms were a little extravagant; but how can you describe the incapacity of the man who said to British Columbia, "You are not asking enough; we will do more; we will build your railway from Lake Nipissing to your waters on the Pacific; we will undertake to finish the whole thing, and it will not cost you one dollar?" I have always been at a loss to understand how any Minister came to make such an engagement. I protested as earnestly as possible against its wild extravagance, and urged the impossibility of carrying out the engagement. Now, sir, who is it that showed incapacity? Any one introducing such a scheme would show his incapacity. They promised to begin work at once, but when we came in we found the promise was broken; that the two years had elapsed, and that the surveys were barely commenced. Though the Intercolonial was through a settled country, it has taken eleven years to build; they undertook to build one across the entire continent, six times as long as the Intercolonial, within the time that it has taken to build the Intercolonial. Any man may ask how on earth did any one propose such a scheme? What was the motive? One motive may have been, no doubt, the vast patronage vested in them. I cannot understand the reason for such arrangement, and I can only charge

it to gross incapacity. (Hear, hear.) Well, sir, we were treated with a dissertation in that speech on the election law and the Supreme Court law, and he said "that was my Bill." It is true that he introduced a Supreme Court bill twice. He had it inside and outside the Cabinet. I offered to support it, but he failed to carry it. In saying the Bill was his, he committed a slight error, for if you look in the public accounts for 1870 or 1871 you will find an item setting forth that a lawyer in Toronto, for drafting the Supreme Court Bill, was paid \$500. (Oh, oh, and laughter.) I may be incapable, but I never employ a lawyer to draft my Bills—I write them myself. (Applause.) Very material changes were made by Mr. Fournier, and I may say Sir John did aid the Bill through Parliament as much as any person in his position could do. I have not waited until now to say that—I said it in my speech at Sarnia, and, for that and any other assistance he rendered, I thank him; but to say that the Minister of Justice took his Bill and carried it through, is simply to say he was unable to carry it, and to prove his incapacity. Mr. Mackenzie adverted to the Insolvency Bill. It was dangling before Parliament for years. He (Mr. Mackenzie) did not hold the same views as his colleagues, but when the commercial world of Canada came forward and asked for it, they took it up and passed it; therefore, showing our "incapacity." (Laughter.) Mr. M. continued: There is another matter dealt with in that speech I propose to speak of. You have seen the accusation that he was driven to take Sir Hugh Allan's money "because the Reformers were spending two dollars to their one," and wild accusations have been used since about a letter of Mr. Brown's, from which we learn he collected a small sum of money—between two and three thousand dollars. I said what I had to say on this subject, in a speech delivered at Sarnia, Nov. 25th, 1873, which I will read:—

"Sir John said he would be able to prove that I had spent

"enormous sums in aiding my friends in their elections  
 "throughout the country. I am not aware of any large fund  
 "got up and used in that direction. I never spent any money in  
 "the elections, and never received any money to spend in that  
 "way. Money was contributed to the central fund for the pur-  
 "pose of defraying miscellaneous legal expenses, and amounted  
 "to between three and four thousand dollars. This is the entire  
 "amount which has been spent by the Liberal party at the  
 "elections. I make this statement on my own responsibility,  
 "as leader of the party; and I am prepared to challenge con-  
 "tradiction. I trust that those who have been intimate with  
 "me from my boyhood in this place, will know sufficient of  
 "me and my faults, not to accuse me of having made statements  
 "that are not correct in fact. Such, sir, was the position at  
 "the general election. What individual members may have  
 "spent at their elections, I have nothing to do with. Every  
 "man strove to secure his election; and I think it is quite pos-  
 "sible—in fact, exceedingly probable—that members on both  
 "sides in the excitement of the election spent money impro-  
 "perly. It would be saying a great deal for human nature, if  
 "we were to assert that in no case did any candidate spend  
 "money improperly. As far as I am concerned, and as far as  
 "my knowledge extends, the elections were carried on in the  
 "most upright manner it was possible for a political party to  
 "act."

Now, sir, that is my answer to these wild charges, and I  
 invite them to make any investigation, so far as I am concerned,  
 they may please. You referred to-night, Mr. Chairman, very  
 briefly to the steel rail business—(hear, hear and laughter)—  
 and the result of it in Montreal was that one man who seemed  
 to deserve it was ridden upon a rail himself. (Laughter.)  
 Now, sir, I have a word or two to say about that, because I see  
 that some papers not friendly and some papers that are friendly  
 have mistaken one portion of my letter. The newspaper

charge was that I bought from a firm in Montreal, of which my brother was a member, 40,000 tons of steel rails. My reply was that I did not buy rails from any firm in Montreal; that tenders were publicly advertised for, and contracts were given out after more than a month's notice. I stated simply in addition, not that it was at all necessary to the other part, that besides this, no brother or relation of mine ever in any way, directly or indirectly, received or would receive one cent profit (Hear, hear.) Now, mind you, the charge was that I bought them of a firm in Montreal, and my denial was that I did not buy them from any firm in Montreal. The course was pressed upon the Government by Mr. Sandford Fleming, in consequence of the exceedingly low state of the market. After considering the matter for some days I acceded, and the quantity was subsequently increased, owing to the then favourable state of the market. If ever there was a fair transaction upon this earth, it was this transaction, and these people know it, and when I said the statement in the *Gazette* was "a deliberate falsehood," I said it because Mr. White knew that tenders were on the table of the House of Commons weeks and months before a single rail was shipped in England or delivered in this country—(loud applause)—and the attempt to make a side assertion as to whether my brother was legally or illegally a partner, was a most reckless one. (Hear, hear.) I hold that he had a perfect right to be a principal of the firm who took the contract; he had as good a right to contract in his own name, individually, if he thought proper, as any one in the Dominion, and I vindicate that right, but I said that in the communications, as a matter of fact, that he was not interested, not as a matter that wanted defending. (Hear, hear, and applause.) I see that it has been stated since that it was a bad transaction. Well, that is fair criticism. I believe it was a very good transaction. (Laughter and applause.) "Well," it is said, "they were bought too soon." I don't think they were. (Applause.)

If we had succeeded in getting the Minnesota people to lay their portion of the boundary, the rails would at this moment have been laid down to Winnipeg. We will be able next year to lay 100 miles of these rails between Lake Superior at a cheaper rate than ever a railway was built on this continent. (Hear, hear.) Still, I don't object to criticism on the policy of buying the rails; I admit it is fair criticism, and I am prepared to meet it on the floor of the House of Commons. (Loud applause.) That I don't object to; but I do object to insinuations against a Minister or Administration upon supposition. (Hear, hear.) It was worse than that, for they knew what they were saying. (Hear, hear.) I don't pretend to be free from personal ambition any more than any other man. On the other hand, I feel the greatest possible pride in occupying the highest possible position in this country. (Cheers.) I have ambition, to continue in that position, and, at all events, we mean to do it. (Loud cheering.) But above everything else, I have ambition to be able to vindicate my own manhood before the country. (Renewed cheering.) Ministers may rise and fall; I may at the next election be rejected by my own constituency. (A voice: "No you won't.") I don't intend to be, mind you—(laughter)—and one Minister may go out and another come in, and the time come when I pass on to private life. I look to that, and I tell you, sir, I feel more pride in having—as I believe I have—the confidence of this country than I have in being its Prime Minister. (Loud cheering.) I would rather sacrifice political position to-morrow than do an unworthy act which would subject me to the just censure of an honest man. (Loud and prolonged applause.) But I feel, sir, that I have taken up far too much of your time—(Cries of No, no; go on)—and I always regret when I have to say one word personally, yet in this it is my desire, as far as political discussion is concerned, to elevate it and keep it free from strong epithets. I have no

desire to indulge in these or ever use any unfair mode in the discussion of public questions. It is not my intention to do so. We all owe it to the country that is our own. If I am compelled to characterize the incapacity of those that have brought charges against me, I hope I shall do it in such a way that will not leave me open to charges of dealing with gross personalities. (Applause.) I have merely to say that during times of great depression any Ministry labours under personal disadvantage. We are told by Sir John A. Macdonald in his remarkable speech that when he assumed office in 1854 the country passed through a period of unexampled prosperity. Well, gentleman, I have too vivid a recollection of what I suffered myself in 1857 in a small way to take that in. (Laughter.) Those that were engaged in commercial life, those engaged in business in Montreal, know that the farmer, and mechanic, merchant, and professional man, down to the speculator in city lots, could tell the difference between '57 and '75. Mr. Mackenzie preferred the prosperity of '75 to '57. The only point that had been alleged in this connection was, we did not give sufficient protection. Well, we have to reply to that, perhaps it is true, but at all events we gave a great deal more than you did. (Loud applause.) I thank you very kindly indeed for your kindness to myself personally to-night and on former occasions. I have had the opportunity of meeting gentlemen in this hall previously, and I hope I shall do so in the future, and whilst I live I shall never forget the kindness of the public of Montreal to myself and the hearty support they have accorded to me and the Government, through Mr. Jetté—(applause)—Mr. Mackenzie and Mr. Workman, and, as they will do in a few days, through Mr. Devlin—(loud and continued applause)—and I hope the acts of the Government will be acts capable of proving at once they have administrative capacity. (Loud and prolonged applause.)

## SPEECH AT THE ST. ANDREW'S DINNER, OTTAWA.

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In acknowledging the toast of "Her Majesty's Ministers" at the St. Andrew's Banquet, November 30, Mr. MACKENZIE said:—Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen,—I have no doubt most of the ladies and a considerable proportion of the gentlemen present desire that I should be brief, and as I understand we are limited to twelve minutes each, I promise you not to trespass beyond the prescribed time. As one of Her Majesty's Ministers for this colony, I am very much obliged for the manner in which you have received the toast just proposed, and although I cannot reply for the adviser of our Sovereign in Her own peculiar home, I still venture to say that that particular toast will be drunk in every part of the British Empire with as much enthusiasm as that of the Local Ministers. (Hear, hear.) It is a proud and happy circumstance in this country, at a meeting like the present, composed chiefly of Scotchmen, Scotchwomen, and their friends, that we gather, far from the shores that gave birth to ourselves or our forefathers, under the shadow of the British flag—the Union Jack of England, Scotland, and Ireland—with Her Majesty's Red Coats upon every side of us. (Cheers.) A few years ago a very insignificant portion of the people of Canada, and I hope as insignificant a proportion of the people on the other side of the Atlantic, were looking to the severance of the mother-country from the colonies, as a matter of course, and only a matter of time. There has been within the last year or two, I am happy to say, a great change in public opinion in England upon that subject. I can scarcely call the extinction of the theory of severance in Canada a great change—there were so few who ever entertained it. (Hear, hear.) We know that now the heart of the entire nation is sound upon the



question, and where the doctrine of separation but a short time ago grew and flourished, there are very few who think of it, but a great majority are at once in favour of uniting still firmer the bonds that hold together all the portions of the earth that own our Sovereign's sway. (Cheers.) I was gratified beyond measure when, a few days ago, I read, as I have no doubt you all have read, that excellent speech delivered at Edinburgh by one of the foremost Liberals of Great Britain—one of Mr. Gladstone's late colleagues in the British Government—the Right Hon. W. E. Forster—in which he referred at length and with so much force to the Colonial Question. Some members of that school of British politicians to which the Right Hon. gentleman belongs were for some time supposed to look rather askance upon the colonies and colonists, believing it was not in the interests of the Empire that the connection should be prolonged indefinitely. The speech to which I have alluded is a practical renunciation on their behalf, I take it, of their peculiar views. We know it is not the opinion of Her Majesty's advisers in Great Britain that the colonies should take to themselves a separate existence. No one desires more earnestly the continuance of that connection than the Right Hon. the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and that all his colleagues share very cordially his views in that respect we have no reason to doubt. (Cheers.) I have already referred to the speech of Mr. Forster, and I may add that it cannot be otherwise than gratifying to find him, one of the greatest of British statesmen, taking that high and patriotic and reassuring ground which he took in his speech at Edinburgh. (Hear, hear.) May we not hope, sir, that there is no gentleman in public life possessed of any influence, possessed of any public character, who will give utterance to or entertain other sentiments than those expressed by him upon that occasion, and carried into actual practice by Her Majesty's present Government in England? (Hear, hear.) May we not hope, too, that there

shall be no doubt as to the intimacy of the relationship to be maintained between the English-speaking people now forming the British Empire and the Crown and Person of Her Majesty, and all Her successors to the end of time? (Loud and prolonged cheering.) It is a grand and glorious thing to reflect upon that these English-speaking people, planted in such numbers all over the world, can be united by one firm and lasting bond, at any rate, which will always keep their hopes and aspirations in one direction, and that the Sovereign of Great Britain will continue to preside over, guard and guide their destinies, even if they are themselves scattered over the entire face of the globe; while their very existence will be a guarantee not only for the peace of nations, but for the progress of civilisation and enlightenment over the whole surface of the earth. (Cheers.) And, sir, it is the proudest position that Great Britain could occupy, so far as the relations of men with each other are concerned, that the overshadowing power and influence which she has long possessed in giving shape to the destinies and relations of nations, are always exercised with a view to the amelioration of the condition of mankind—that she has the will as well as the power to maintain in a great measure the peace of the rest of the world—and that prosperity, peace and contentment have followed her flag all over the earth, upon whatever soil it has ever been planted. (Loud cheers.) May its march of triumph never be interrupted, until it shall become the one absorbing and powerful instrumentality in the hands of Providence for the prevention of war, the extension of commerce, and the promotion of the arts of peace. (Cheers.) I feel very proud to be able, as a member of Her Majesty's Government in this country, to assure you that to whatever extent the Administration of which I have the honour to be a member may have it in their power, they will contribute to the rearing of this political cairn—if I may use that Scottish term upon this

occasion—which will be the most conspicuous monument to the honour of humanity that has ever been erected or ever can be. (Cheers). As Scotchmen, while ever loyal to the sentiments which the memories of our native country engender, and while at a meeting of this kind craving permission to speak in terms of eulogy of its excellence as we speak of no other, let us never forget that in the community in which we move we form but a small portion of the whole,—a community which contains within its borders, and all upon equal terms as the subjects of our Queen, people of almost every nationality under the sun—but especially the people of England and Ireland, whose numbers respectively largely exceed our own. While, therefore, we remember with gratitude the land of our birth, while our hearts are fired with the warmest patriotism when its history and its heroes are recalled to our minds, let us remember that we have greater duties and responsibilities, not of a sectional but of a national character, and that we ought to devote ourselves faithfully and honestly to the task of creating and upholding in Canada a Canadian spirit, Canadian sentiment, and Canadian enthusiasm—in short, a spirit of nationality always British, but still Canadian. (Loud cheers.) Anything that Her Majesty's present Ministers in Canada can do to promote these national sentiments will be cheerfully and willingly done, and with a zeal and earnestness which, I hope, cannot be excelled by any who may be our successors. (Hear, hear.) I sincerely trust that this, one of the highest duties devolving upon the Government of this country, and the preservation of harmony with the Imperial authorities, will be kept steadily in view, and that all other British colonies, in whatever quarter of the globe situated, will unite with us in pursuing a policy which will be for the benefit and the glory of the whole. (Cheers.) The patriotism of the British people and Government will always be with us, and we in turn hope always to reside under the shadow of that grand old flag—at

once the symbol of power and civilization. Rest assured, sir, all that can be done by the Imperial Government for the advancement of the colonies, will be done. Of course we have our own duties to perform, and our share of responsibility to bear. The British colonies are rapidly approaching in population the number of the mother-country, entirely exclusive of English-speaking residents in India, and the time will probably soon come when they will be the more powerful. It is to be hoped they will always be found ready to do all in their power for the promotion of the interests of the great nation from which they sprung and to which they owe allegiance. I can scarcely forbear giving utterance to these sentiments because I know they are the expression of the aspirations which animate the great body—might I not say the whole?—of the Canadian people. (Cheers.) They will find—indeed have found—a ready response in this audience, and in my heart of hearts, I believe that their cultivation would lead to national consolidation, national power, and national wealth; that while benefiting ourselves, we should benefit our fellow-creatures on other parts of the earth's surface. I had the pleasure of visiting my native country during the year, and of conversing personally with Her Majesty the Queen, and I can assure you it was with a feeling of reverence I enjoyed that high privilege, for of all the Monarchs who have ever reigned either over this or any other people, none has better deserved that loyalty and love so heartily manifested by all Her subjects to our good Queen Victoria. (Cheers.) I am sure we all earnestly wish that she may long be spared to exert Her beneficent influence and the wise supervision she has always exercised over Her vast empire. (Loud cheers.) I am much obliged, Mr. President, for your kindness in drinking to Her Majesty's Ministers, and I hope they will always be worthy of the trust reposed in them. (Loud and prolonged cheering.)